HISTORY

OF THE

TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH,

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY,

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

U. S. A.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN 1839; AN APPENDIX CONTAINING THE RECORDS OF THE ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS; AND A GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL REGISTER.

By ALBERT SMITH, M. D., LL. D.

"Memor sub majorum."

BOSTON:
PRESS OF GEORGE H. ELLIS,
[illegible]
1876.

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Vol. 1

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BOSTON:
PRESS OF GEORGE H. ELLIS,
No. 7 Tremont Place.
1876.

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OF THE

TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH,

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY,

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VOL. I.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
IN 1850; AN APPENDIX CONTAINING THE RECORDS OF THE
ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS; AND A GENEALOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL REGISTER.

By ALBERT SMITH, M. D., LL. D.

"Memory and monument."

BOSTON:
PRESS OF GEORGE H. ELLIS,
No. 1 Tremont Place.
1876.

James Miller

PREFACE.

THIS history is given to the public as it is. That it would have been better with more research and a longer time devoted to its preparation, there can be no doubt; but the hastening years and the attendant infirmities of age admonished the writer (now past seventy-five years) that the work must soon be completed, if ever.

The work was undertaken at the earnest solicitation of friends who thought it might prove an agreeable and useful occupation, as I withdrew from the labors of an active profession; and it has now for five years engaged almost my entire attention. It has proved a work of great labor. Till I commenced my researches, I did not realize my own ignorance, nor the ignorance of others of my own age, of the early history of the town. The old men of the second generation, so familiar with all the early affairs of the town, were gone. Every succeeding generation knows less of its predecessors, and the men of the third generation were found to be sadly deficient in any definite knowledge of their ancestors; so there has been little or nothing to my hand for this history. Mr. Dunbar's history is barely a sketch, which it purports to be, and is of very little value in an extended history like this. The town records have gone on uninterruptedly to the present time, but they furnish little material for history; they do little else than furnish the dates of certain events. No town papers of any kind are found preserved, till near the beginning of the present century. The invoice is not found

till 1792, but can then be traced down to the present time. All these sources of information have been carefully explored and used.

This history was begun too late,—not till the second generation had all passed away, and the third had become old men. It is unfortunate that the second generation was suffered to pass away before any one had been found to put in a permanent form the large knowledge which it possessed relating to the men and events in the early history of Peterborough. I have found many descendants of the early settlers of the town lamentably deficient in the history of their own families, being able to go no farther back than their grandfathers. I have had, in numerous instances, to make up the first and often the second generations of these families as I could from other sources.

At the present time, tradition seems to have died out. Many large families have become extinct, strangers having come into their places, who knew not the fathers; while other families have been greatly reduced by emigration and removal. Altogether, such changes have taken place that it becomes almost impossible to trace back the history of the early times.

A great loss was experienced in the destruction of the church records in the conflagration of Dea. Morison's house, in 1791. We can never know much concerning the establishing of the church, or of the ministries of Messrs. Morrison and Annan. This has been a great misfortune, as the history of the church in those times was the history of the town. No private diaries and no other written record of individuals have come down to us as they have done in many other towns, to throw light on these times. The fathers were men to *act* rather than write, and so our record comes short, no one having recorded their deeds.

Much aid has been afforded by Mr. Dunbar's "Church Book of the Congregational Society," which he kept faithfully through his ministry of twenty-seven years,—from 1799 to 1827. All his facts and items have been found to be correct, and have greatly helped to correct dates and determine events in the town history.

But with all the sources of information furnished, and with the helps and aids from every quarter, we must yet ask, Who is there to tell us of the habits, customs, manners, modes of life, amusements, etc., of the fathers? The third generation, now on the stage, is small and profoundly ignorant of these matters, and we can hardly go beyond conjecture on these topics.

I am especially indebted to George W. Moore, Esq., of Medina, Mich., for much information in relation to the early inhabitants of the town, and for some of the most interesting sketches of the book. His interest and help have encouraged me in every stage of my work. N. H. Morison, LL. D., Provost of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, Md., has made many researches, and examined much historical record out of my reach, and kindly looked over my manuscript before publishing. I wish gratefully to acknowledge his continued interest and encouragement in all stages of my labors. I am also not less indebted to John H. Morison, D. D., for substantial aid to the book, as well as an encouraging word to the writer amid the perplexity of his researches.

I am also especially indebted to Dr. David Youngman, of Boston, for the very efficient aid he has rendered me in the various stages of my labor. During the past winter, and through a long indisposition in the spring, he has been my agent and manager in all matters relating to this history. He has not only furnished important facts and items, but very largely assisted in correcting proofs.

He also had the entire charge of the lithographic engravings, some of which were obtained by his own exertions, and all of them received his personal oversight. Although a few were obtained from old, faded pictures, they reflect great credit on him and the Messrs. Bufford, the gentlemanly and accomplished artists.

The author and readers of this history are also indebted to Dr. Youngman for the very full and well-arranged index at the close of the volume.

I have also been indebted to many others for genealogical records, whose aid I have acknowledged in its proper place in the book.

But for the interest and encouragement of a few friends, being left generally to work out the history as I could, I should have faltered and failed in my enterprise, so great and complicated were the difficulties that environed me.

The book now goes forth in the Centennial year, as the last and only tribute we can pay to the fathers who were on the stage a century ago. It is with regret we say that perhaps the best part of their history is unrelated, having passed out of the recollection of any one living; yet what little we have saved is now put into a permanent form for another century.

ALBERT SMITH.

PETERBOROUGH, N. H., Sept. 1, 1876.

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Albert Smith.

HISTORY OF PETERBOROUGH.

CHAPTER I.

GRANT AND LAYING OUT OF THE TOWN IN 1738.

The Objects of History. — Characters of the First Settlers. — Use of Town Histories. — Scanty Materials for the Same. — Decrease of the Early Families. — Town had its Origin in a Spirit of Speculation. — Petition to Massachusetts Legislature. — Petition Granted. — Act became a Law in 1738. — Grantees Admitted, Survey Made, 1738. — East Mountain not Included. — Starting Point. — Report of Surveyor. — Accepted and Town Granted. — Grantees Selected. — All Falls into the Hands of Four. — Their Character and Object. — First Meeting and Drawing Lots. — Proprietors' Meeting in Town, 1753. — Surveys in Town, 1738. — A Farm to each Proprietor of 500 Acres. — Masonian Proprietors Quitclaim their Right, 1748, by Agreement. — Conditions. — Early Surveys of Little Value.

THE object of history is to develop the causes, the first germs or movement of things, as well as to relate the events themselves, that occur in consequence. Local history is perhaps, in many respects, much less important than general, but nevertheless it is of great value to the localities to which it pertains, and to the *descendants* of those concerned in the historical record.

It can never cease to be a matter of surprise and wonder how the early pioneers of the forbidding soil and climate of New Hampshire rushed upon their lands and beat their way amid all the difficulties and privations of such an adventure, and finally, surmounting all obstacles, attained an eminent

success. It is to be remembered that the soil was then in its virgin state, and was very productive, even with inadequate cultivation, when to us now it requires vigorous muscular power and strong fertilizers to yield much return. Yet very much of this success was due to the men, to their persevering spirit, and enlightened will. History must tell us of these men. They were not an ordinary race, not men of grovelling appetites, of low, mean aspirations, or narrow-minded views; but they were strong-minded, earnest, cheerful and hopeful. And then they were religious in the best sense of the word, — and that made good moral, conscientious men. If they knew little of other books, they knew their Bible well. Such men were adequate to anything. They boldly plunged into the dense forests, sat down with their families, almost isolated from the world, and there worked with patience and perseverance for a good home and a good inheritance, with all the comforts of life. And how fortunate for us and our country that our fathers possessed this bold enterprise and courage, even if it often impelled them, as it did, to very frequent changes from one place to another.

Town histories are not generally of much interest, except to the descendants of the early inhabitants and those concerned in its present administration; yet there are points in all these productions that are of great value in making up the rise and progress of the country, and in accounting for the opinions and conduct of the inhabitants. It has its difficulties equal to any other history, if not even more. The early settlers were unlettered men, little accustomed to commit their thoughts to written language, with only enough of the rudiments of learning to transact their business; and it was not to be expected that any written record of them should come down to us. We have hardly anything for a long series of years but the scanty and unsatisfactory record of the town-meetings. We have not been so fortunate as to find a diary of a single individual in all this region, and only one thing of value has come to us; *viz.*, the Church Records of Rev. E. Dunbar, during his ministry from 1799 to 1827. This has been of great value, as to dates of deaths and marriages, and

has been found to be perfectly correct and reliable, as compared with other sources of information. Perhaps we should not omit to mention that the old Cemetery has often been almost the only history that could be obtained of a few individuals. So imperfect and scanty are the materials of history in the town that, in many instances, we cannot tell where the early settlers lived, where at the time of their death, or what became of their families. Tradition can help us but little. Many of the old and influential families have faded out so entirely as not to leave a trace behind them; and others, that have left descendants, are no better, as they know little or nothing of their ancestors. Of the large and influential families of Todd, Templeton, Swan, Alld, Stuart, Cunningham, Mitchell, Ritchie, Ferguson, and many more, not a single individual of their name remains in the town; and of the large families of Steele Robbe, Smith, Holmes, Moore, and Morison, their numbers are greatly lessened, and they are growing less every year. This presents an unfavorable prospect to an historian of the town, for he has, in many cases, neither written nor traditional aid on which he can rely. But this history, such as it is, is presented to the public with all its imperfections.

We have every reason to believe that the first conception of the township, which afterwards took the name of Peterborough, had its entire origin in the speculative spirit of the petitioners to the Massachusetts Legislature, which was then supposed to have jurisdiction over this unappropriated territory. Not one of these petitioners or of the proprietors ever settled on this soil. It might have been a mode of proceeding suited to the times, and was encouraged, though urged on false pretences, as a means of more rapidly increasing the settlement.

At a meeting of the Great and General Court of Massachusetts, assembled Dec. 5, 1737, Samuel Heywood and others urge their petition as follows: "That in the year 1721 they humbly preferred their petition to the Great and General Court then sitting, praying, for the reasons then mentioned, they might be granted a tract of land on Souhegan River for a township, being without land for their posterity, and desirous they should not remove from out of the province, but settle

together under the laws and liberties of this government, where they were born; that the honorable House of Representatives then passed a vote in favor of them, but, the Indian War then breaking out, they dropped their petition, and that ever since they have held together, and have often petitioned this honorable Court for a tract of unappropriated land for a township."

They go on to say, "that, although they received much encouragement, but by the carelessness and indiscretion of those who appeared for the petitioners, their petition never passed this honorable Court till the year 1735, when they voted them a township of six miles square, but voted that they should be grantees of one of the line towns, and having made choice of one, the honorable Committee of the General Court assigned that township to the Hopkinton petitioners, which, although they do not doubt the justice of it, so far broke our Committee measures, and discouraged them, that they left their trust and companions, and most of them were admitted grantees in other townships. But, however, the far greater number of the petitioners kept to their first intention of settling together, though this accident made them quite irresolute for a season, and was the occasion that, hitherto, they have unhappily failed of it. Whereupon, the petitioners would humbly represent to your Excellency and honors that their design of settling together was, as they conceive, laudable in itself, and conducing to the public good, in cultivating the waste land of the Province, that they have a long while persevered in this design from the year 1721." The above petition was signed by forty-nine persons, and a grant of unappropriated land for a township six miles square, situated on what was commonly called the line of towns, was made, on the supposition that this territory was in the Province of Massachusetts. The following are the proceedings: —

In the House of Representatives, Dec. 8, 1737.

Read and ordered that the petition be granted, and the petitioners and their associates be, and are hereby empowered by a Surveyor and Chainmen on oath, to survey and lay out a township of the contents of six miles square, in some part of the unappro-

priated lands of the Province suitable for a township, and that they return a plat thereof to this Court within twelve months for confirmation. And for the more effectual bringing forward the settlement of said new town, ordered, "that there be sixty-three house lots laid out in a suitable and defensible manner, one of which to be for the first settled minister, and one for the second settled minister, and one for the school; each of said three lots to draw equal divisions with the other grantees of the said sixty lots. That the grantees do, within three years from the confirmation of the plan, have settled on each home lot a good family, and in order thereto, that they build thereon a dwelling-house of eighteen feet square and seven feet studs at least, and finish the same, and have well fenced and brought to hay, grain, or ploughed, six acres to each home lot. That they settle an orthodox minister and build a decent convenient meeting-house for the public worship of God; and that Col. Josiah Willard and Capt. John Hobson, with such as shall be appointed by the honorable board, be a Committee for admitting the grantees or settlers, and that they take effectual care that no persons are admitted as such who have had any grants for the space of three years, and that each grantee give bonds to the Province Treasurer or his successor in the sum of forty pounds for his fulfilling or complying with the terms or conditions of the grant; and if any of the settlers fail of performing the said conditions, then his or their right or share to revert to and be at the disposition of the Province."

The above Act having become a law by the signature of Gov. Belcher, January 16, 1738, the Committee appointed to admit the grantees or settlers into a township granted the petitioners and other associates, whose names are entered on a petition of Samuel Heywood and others; *viz.*, William Dudley, Josiah Willard, and John Hobson, Esq., met at Woburn, March 17, 1738, and admitted sixty grantees of such as had not had any land grants for the three years last past. Not one of all this number ever settled on the land, or probably ever saw it. A majority of them belonged to Concord, as we learn by a vote, in regard to notifying meetings, August 12, 1738, "that the clerk be empowered to call meetings of the future by posting up notifications at Concord, &c., where great numbers of the proprietors dwell." It was now past

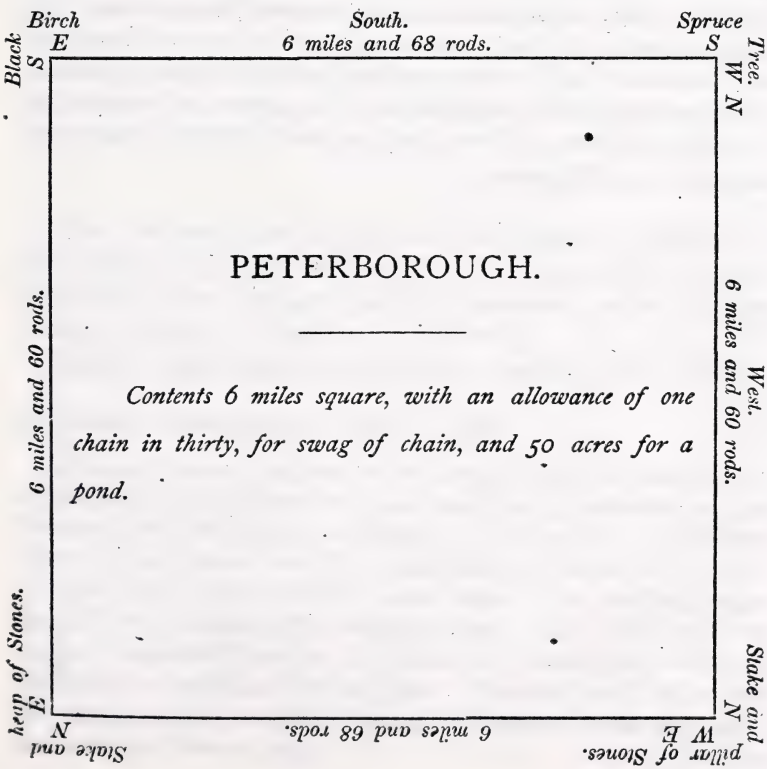
the middle of March, and no time was lost by the proprietors in preparing to select and survey the township of unappropriated land granted them by the Legislature. They accordingly employed one Joseph Wilder as Surveyor, and Joseph Richardson and Zacheus Lovell as Chainmen, to run the lines round their grant, who were required to make oath to the same. We see that the work was hurried as soon as the spring should open and admit of an examination and survey through the trackless wilds of this region, for by the 21st of May succeeding the selection had been made, a plat laid out and surveyed of a township six miles square.

We can form no idea of what governed the Surveyor in the location of the town. It is to be supposed that he was aided by some of the proprietors interested in the grant in selecting the spot he did. After passing the mountain, no surveyor's lines had ever been run; on the north to Hillsborough, and perhaps even farther north, and on the west to Keene and Hinsdale, a large amount of unappropriated land lay before him. We suppose that he could go anywhere in this region and lay out his six miles square. It was a rough country, and contained a vast amount of waste land; the object would be to select a plat that should be as free from these natural obstructions as possible.

We can imagine that, in search for this location, he came through what was afterwards Temple, up to the Notch of the Mountain, so called, where the great travelled road now runs. Of course he desired to include as little of the East Mountains in his township as possible; so he passed west of the mountain somewhat, on very high land, where he could look over a great portion of all the territory that would be included in the new town. Here was spread out before him the Monadnock, in all its grandeur and beauty, which he was satisfied that his survey would not reach; also a large amphitheatre of land, unbroken with any mountainous ridges or precipitous hills, with a considerable river running through its midst. With such a view before him, he no doubt determined to carve his new township out of this particular region. All this would be north-east from the great Monadnock Hill, as it is

called in the survey. These suppositions may account in some degree for what has seemed the fortunate location of Peterborough beyond that of any town in this part of the State.

The next proceeding of the Surveyor was to determine where he should make his starting point. He was now over the mountains, or sufficiently so as to leave them principally on the east, and so he commenced his survey at the south-east corner of the town, which must have been quite high on the mountain's side; nevertheless, sufficiently west to shun the East Mountains in the survey. It was determined to lay out the town in a square, each side being six miles in length, and exactly in the points of the compass. We have no vestige of this survey, except the following sworn report of the Surveyor and Chainmen, made to the Legislature:—



Report of the Surveyors:—

May 21st, 1738. Then finished the surveying and laying out of a township, of the contents of six miles square, to satisfy a grant of the Great and General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, made the 16th day of January, 1737, on the petition of Samuel Heywood and others, and their associates, lying on the easterly side of a great hill, called Monadnock Hill, between said hill and a township laid out to the inhabitants of Salem and others (Amherst), who served in the expedition to Canada in 1690, and lyeth on a southerly branch of the Contoocook River, near the head thereof, said branch running through it. It began at a black Birch Tree, the south-east corner, and from thence it ran west six miles and sixty-eight rods by a line of marked trees to a spruce tree marked for the south-west corner; from thence, it ran north by a line of marked trees six miles and sixty rods to a stake and pillar of stones, the northwest corner; and from thence it ran east by a line of marked trees six miles and sixty-eight rods to a stake and heap of stones, the north-east corner; and from thence straight to where it began, six miles and sixty rods. The lines above said did contain the contents of six miles square, with the allowance of one chain in thirty for swag of chain, and fifty acres for a pond.

JOSEPH WILDER, *Surveyor.*

Then follows, June 8, 1738, the certificate of the oath of the above of Joseph Wilder, the Surveyor, and of Joseph Richardson and Zacheus Lovell, Chainmen, before William Dudley, Justice of the Peace, of Boston.

The Act confirming the land to the grantees was as follows:

In House of Representatives, June 14, 1738.

Read and ordered that the plat be accepted, and the land therein delineated and described be and hereby are confirmed to the Grantees, the Petitioners mentioned in the petition of Samuel Heywood and others and their associates, agreeable to the grant of this Court of said Township made them at the settling, begun and held the thirtieth of November last past, and to their heirs and assigns respectfully forever, they effectually complying with and fulfilling the conditions of the grant. Provided the Plat exceed not the quantity of six miles square of land and does not interfere with any former grant.

The grant of the township having been confirmed by the General Court, the sixty grantees or proprietors having been selected by the Committee of the Legislature, and Jonathan Prescott, by a subsequent Act of June 28, 1738, having been authorized to call the first meeting, they were now in order to begin their new enterprise. Singular as it may seem, in all this array of the names of sixty proprietors, only four are found to be really concerned in the settlement; *viz.*, John Hill, John Fowle, Jr., Jeremiah Gridley, and Peter Prescott, not one of whom was among the original petitioners.

These men seem to have been purely speculators, who bought out the original grantees for their own profit. What must we think of those disinterested petitioners, whose zeal for the public good was so great that they were only anxious for permission to redeem some of the waste lands of the Province from the wilderness; and whose desire to form a community by themselves was so strong that they had wearied the General Court for seventeen years with importunate petitions for a township of land, where they might settle in a body, and enjoy that pleasant social intercourse with each other which they so much coveted? Many of them must have disposed of their rights before the grant was finally made, on the 14th of June, 1738, and in six months from that time only two of the proprietors, and they not among the petitioners, retained theirs. Every man and one woman who signed that petition of Dec. 7, 1737, forgetting the fervent zeal which, in it, he had professed for the improvement of the Province, forgetting the brotherly love which he said had bound him to his fellow-petitioners for seventeen years of earnest longing and waiting, of trial and disappointment, and just when success had crowned his efforts and made the end sure, sold out, pocketed the profits, and was ready, it is supposed, for another adventure.

Jonathan Prescott, as empowered by the General Court, issued his mandate for a meeting of the proprietors on the 25th of July, 1738, the meeting to take place the same day, at the public house, or tavern, of Luke Verdy, in Boston. The ease with which a meeting could be called in a single day of

sixty proprietors, a majority of whom lived twenty miles distant, shows conclusively that the rights of the other proprietors had been already gathered into a few hands in the immediate vicinity. The changes which had taken place among the proprietors were shown in the meeting, as John Hill, a new name, was chosen moderator, and Peter Prescott, another new name, was made proprietors' clerk. At an adjourned meeting, a committee of five (any three of them to act) was appointed to "view" the township, and to lay out "the town lots" required as a condition of the grant. This committee consisted of Hill, Fowle, Gridley, Jonathan and Peter Prescott; none but Jonathan Prescott among the original proprietors. This meeting also appointed John Hill treasurer, levied a tax of ten pounds on each right, to defray the expenses of the survey, etc., and empowered the committee, or any three of them, to agree with some person to build a saw-mill, and fix the price of sawing.

It is evident, from the officers chosen, from the committee appointed, and from the whole proceeding, that the four associates, Hill, Fowle, Gridley, and Prescott, had the management entirely in their own hands. It is not known how many of the original proprietors still retained their rights; but on the 29th of November, when the first division of the lots took place, these four men had become proprietors of all but two lots in the township. Each of the four represented himself as the assignee of fourteen proprietors, but Hill actually obtained the portion of sixteen proprietors, we suppose, to make up the sixty required in the grant. After Nov. 29, 1738, when this drawing took place, the two original proprietors, Hubbard and Jonathan Prescott, disappear from the record, and the other four act as sole proprietors of the township.

We can only briefly allude to the proceedings of the proprietors up to 1756, by relating all their important acts. The proprietors usually met at a tavern in Boston, but sometimes at Mr. Foster's in Woburn, and once at Peterborough, Sept. 26, 27, 1753, where, for the first time on their record, the name of the town, Peterborough, is recorded as the place of meeting. Mr. Gridley usually acted as moderator. The following are

some of their proceedings, related without the particular dates. They ordered the town to be surveyed by Joseph Wilder, who laid out the sixty-three home lots (each home lot containing fifty acres, being united with a proprietor's lot of fifty acres). He laid out the rest of the town in lots not exceeding two hundred acres, nor less than one hundred acres each. They cut and cleared a road, five rods wide, from New Ipswich to the meeting-house (the present street road is part of the same); presented a lot of fifty acres to the school; two lots of fifty acres each to the first and the second minister, reserving ten acres for the meeting-house, burying-ground, and training-field; they presented fifty acres to John Ritchie, the first child born in the town; sent a gun to Rev. Mr. Harvey; in 1750, sent ten pounds of powder, and twenty pounds of lead; and in 1754, at the beginning of the French and Indian War, sent half a barrel of powder, one hundred pounds of lead, and two hundred flints to the settlers.

The first survey of lots by Wilder must have been made in the summer and autumn of 1738, as the plat was ready and the division made among the proprietors on the 29th of November. It is well known that the first attempt at settlement was made in 1739. As all the lots surveyed had been divided among the proprietors, each one must have undertaken to provide settlers for his own lands. The plat in the records, though undoubtedly made to be presented to the Masonian proprietors, is especially useful, as showing the position of farms occupied by all the original settlers. In addition to the lands divided according to the Wilder survey, each proprietor received a farm containing five hundred acres of land not surveyed in the previous surveys. Farm A, the most valuable of them all, situated just above, and taking in the upper portion of the village, and embracing the farms now occupied by Cyrus Frost and son, Stephen D. Robbe, Charles McCoy, and W. Hiram Longley, and eighty acres east of the River Nubunusit, was assigned to Gridley; Farm B to Hill; C to Prescott; D to Fowle; these farms lying on the Contoocook River, extending from Hancock line nearly to the North Factory.

In the meantime, before any settlements were permanently made, the proprietors had discovered that the township was not under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts; and that the assignees of John Tufton Mason claimed the territory, under the Masonian grant, of a large portion of southern New Hampshire. We have no means of telling how this discovery was made, or what its influence was upon the proprietors and settlers of the town, or whether it either accelerated or retarded the final settlement of the town. We are equally ignorant of all the discussions between the parties, their propositions and counter-propositions on this subject. There must have been room for much diplomacy,—for much recrimination and hard feeling, in the few years that intervened between the discovery and the final settlement in 1748. There was hardly a single settler in town at this time. The records are silent on all these points, but they give a document dated January 26, 1748, in which the Masonian proprietors grant and quitclaim the whole town to Hill, Fowle, Gridley, and the heirs of John Vassal, on certain conditions, only reserving to themselves thirty-four hundred acres of land, which was not to be taxed until improved, and all the "trees fit for masting his Majesty's navy." This is the only legal document by which the proprietors ever held the town. It will be observed that Prescott was not one of the grantees. It is probable that he had not the means of meeting the expenses of the settlement, and had sold out to his associates at the time of his resignation of the clerkship, in 1754. Under the Masonian grant, the failure of any proprietor to meet his share of the expenses, wrought a total forfeiture of his rights to the other proprietors. Under this provision the heirs of John Vassal forfeited their interest in the grant. The conditions of the grant required that the "grantees shall settle forty families on said tract of land within four years, and each family shall have fifteen acres of land cleared and fitted for tillage,—have a meeting-house built there, and preaching in the same constantly supported. The time of the Indian war was not to count as a part of the four years."

The Masonian grant annulled the Massachusetts grant, and

all the conditions contained in it. All could have been begun anew, had the proprietors so chosen; but they did not. The old division of lots was retained, and all their previous acts were assumed to be valid in all their subsequent proceedings.

We have no further demonstration of any acts of the Masonian proprietors, who owned all the lands adjoining the town, except that, under their direction and instruction, at such a time as they had authority so to do, for the purpose of improving the townships of Jaffrey and Dublin, Colonel Blanchard run the west line of the town one entire range and half of another, farther east than the original line, and added the same amount, three-fourths of a mile, on the east line, — of course including most of the largest of the East Mountains, which the first survey had so adroitly avoided; of which act the proprietors say, — "which was a great damage to the settlers, and expense as well as damage to the proprietors." We know not whether it was in the spirit of injury, that the thirty-four hundred acres, reserved by the Masonian proprietors, were assigned to them of this very portion added by the Blanchard survey, which being situated on the East Mountains was almost worthless for any purpose, the little that could be settled being very undesirable and unsalable. This controversy probably bred a good deal of ill-feeling, for it continued to linger along for twenty years, till May 22, 1767, when John Hill, the clerk, sent them a plat of the town, with the Mason lots laid out, and the alterations made in its position by the Blanchard survey, marked upon it; and thus the subject was finally disposed of. This act of Hill's is the last transaction recorded in the proprietors' book.

It must be acknowledged that the Masonian proprietors were very lenient to these intruders upon their premises. They had come in and carved out the only six miles square that could be found in this region, so free from mountains or ponds, and embracing so many advantages for a successful settlement. It is perfectly natural that they should insist upon a change of bounds, so as to render the adjoining towns — all owned by them — better adapted to settlement. They cut off from the west line of the town about three-fourths of a

mile in width, and added the same amount on the east side, — throwing the town so far east. It was a damage to the town, as it threw the Contoocook River to the west of the centre of the town, when by the original survey it run nearly through the middle of it; and it substituted an almost worthless tract of land for what was well adapted to settlement. It must have been a poor remuneration for their property, which the Masonian proprietors derived from this town. The thirty-four hundred acres set off in the plan, was, a good part of it, entirely worthless, being situated on the mountain, and the rest too poor to be of much value.

These surveys were all that have come down to us from the beginning of the town to the present time. The lots are so irregular in form, so unequal in size, and laid out in such a manner that they cannot be recognized by number of lot or range, and we cannot rely upon them to designate the localities of the early settlers.

We have thus given as brief an account as we could of the early starting, of the situation, of the territory, of the survey, and of the laying out in lots, of the town; all of which constitutes a part of the historical record that could by no means be omitted.

CHAPTER II.

ACCOUNT OF THE SCOTCH-IRISH.

Character of Early Settlers.— Intelligent.— Stern Presbyterians. — Persecutions. — Emigrtion to Ireland. — Their Hardships. — History of the Scotch-Irish. — Irish Rebellion and Confiscation. — Second Rebellion. —Re-peopling from Scotland. — Principally about 1610. — One Company from London. — Prosperity. — Persecution of Presbyterians in Scotland. — Claverhouse sent against them. — Contest from 1670 to 1688. — Presbyterians Rush to Ireland. — Ulster County Prosperous. — Exactions of Government.— Advance of Rents.— Emigrate in great Numbers.— Beginning Eighteenth Century.— Landlords Alarmed. — First and Second Emigration. — Settled in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, &c. — Character of these Men. — Number of Descendants.— Service in the Revolution.— All Loyal. — Their Perseverance.

THE town of Peterborough was uncommonly fortunate in the character of its early settlers. They were not a mixture of all nationalities and languages and habits, as in all our new settlements at the present time, but consisted principally of Scotch-Irish, who themselves emigrated from Ireland, or were the immediate descendants of the same. They were not of the lower order of the European population, but were of the middling class, men considerably educated, so that they were well qualified to understand the tyrannical and exacting course pursued by their government towards them, and fully to appreciate their civil and religious rights.

When a colony contemplated a settlement in America, induced by the favorable representation of a young man by the name of Holmes, who had visited this country, they previously sent an agent with a petition to Gov. Shute, of Massachusetts, signed by two hundred and seventeen, all but seven

of whom signed it in a fair and legible hand. This circumstance shows that a large proportion of them had learned to write, and were superior to the common class of emigrants. This occurred March 26, 1718. These men were rigid Presbyterians, and felt that they could not endure the exactions of Protestant England in regard to the Episcopal Church. They were not only heavily taxed, but they were often involved in difficulties from their determination never to conform to their Book of Common Prayer. Besides, they could hold land only on lease, and were subject to such exactions as their landlords pleased. They could not endure such a state of things, and they resolved, at all hazards, to try their fortunes in a new country. They were fully aware of all the dangers and perils of an emigration to a new country, where they knew they were to meet an inhospitable climate, a hard soil, and, still more, and worse than all, where they were to encounter a savage foe. It required no small strength of character to carry out such a resolution, to brave the perils of the ocean, and all the dangers incident to planting a new colony, with such slender means as they possessed. This race of men held such a prominent rank among the first settlers of the town, it so impressed its peculiar habits and modes of thinking and of action upon them and their descendants, that I shall be pardoned if I more fully detail its previous history. I do this the more readily because I have found that many of the descendants of the Scotch-Irish know little else of them, except that they emigrated from the north of Ireland, and were their worthy ancestors.*

During the Irish rebellion, in the reign of Elizabeth, the Province of Ulster, embracing the northern counties of Ireland, was reduced to the lowest extremity of poverty and wretchedness; and its moral and religious state was scarcely less deplorable than its civil. Soon after the ascension of James I., his quarrels with the Roman Catholics of that province led to a conspiracy against the British authority. O'Neill and O'Donnell,

* For what follows in relation to the Scotch-Irish, we are chiefly indebted to a historical discourse delivered by J. Smith Futhey at the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Octorara Church, Chester County, Pennsylvania, page 27.

two Irish lords, who had been created earls by the English government, arranged a plot against the government. Its detection led these chief conspirators to flee the country, leaving their extensive estates, about 500,000 acres, at the mercy of the king, who only wanted a pretext for taking possession. A second insurrection soon gave occasion for another large forfeiture, and nearly six entire counties in the Province of Ulster were confiscated, and subjected to the disposal of the crown. But it was a territory which showed the effects of a long series of lawless disturbances. It was almost depopulated, its resources wasted, and the cultivation of the soil in a great measure abandoned.

"It became a favorite project with the King to re-people these counties with a Protestant population, who would be disposed to cultivate the arts of peace and industry, the better to preserve order, to establish more firmly the British rule, and to introduce a higher state of cultivation into that portion of his domains." To promote this object, liberal offers of land were made, and other inducements held out in England and Scotland for colonists to occupy this wide and vacant territory. This was about the year 1610. The project was eagerly embraced, companies and colonies were formed, and individuals without organization were tempted to partake of the advantageous offers of the government. A London company, among the first to enter upon this new acquisition, established itself at Derry, and gave such character to the place as to cause it to be known and called the city of Londonderry.

"The principal emigration, however, was from Scotland. It consisted of a population distinguished for thrift, industry, and endurance, and also bringing with them their Presbyterianism, with a rigid adherence to the Westminster standards. They settled principally in the counties of Down, Londonderry, and Antrim, which has given a peculiar character to this portion of the Emerald Isle."

It is said that the Presbyterians of Scotland, who furnished the largest element of this population, have maintained their ascendency to the present day, though assailed on the one side by the persevering efforts of the government Church, and

on the other by the Romanists. The Presbyterian Church was established in the County of Antrim, Ireland, in 1613.

The province had great prosperity for some years in consequence of this large influx of population; but such was the bigotry and despotism of the British government at that time, that this prosperity was not destined to continue. A persecution of the most oppressive kind was begun in Ulster in 1661, and every expedient, short of extermination, was resorted to to break the attachment of the people to their Presbyterian polity, and to alienate them from it. But, as is always the case, these persecutions made them more strongly adhere to their faith.

After a while, the persecution ceased in Ireland and was transferred to Scotland. Charles II. and James II., blind to the dictates of justice and humanity, pursued a course of measures tending to wean from their support their Presbyterian subjects, who had been among the most loyal, and to whose assistance Charles II. owed his restoration to the throne. Col. James Graham, better known as Claverhouse, of infamous memory to this day among the Presbyterians, and graphically exhibited in Scott's novel of "The Heart of Midlothian," was sent with his dragoons upon a mistaken mission of compelling the Presbyterians to conform in their religious worship to the Establishment; and from 1670 to the accession of William and Mary in 1688, they had no open worship, nor any hidden, but at the peril of their lives.

The attempts to establish the Church of England in Scotland, and to destroy the prevailing religious systems so dear to the people, were persistently pursued by the Charleses and James II., and to accomplish their purpose they were guilty of persecutions as mean, cruel, and savage as any which have disgraced the annals of religious bigotry and crime. "Many were treacherously and ruthlessly butchered, and the ministers were prohibited, under severe penalties, from preaching, baptizing, or ministering in any way for their flocks."

Having suffered every extreme of cruelty and oppression, and being tired out in such an unequal contest, these unconquerable and enduring Presbyterians abandoned their homes

and the land of their birth, and, fleeing to Ireland, found an asylum among their countrymen, who had preceded them there.

They took up their residence in Ulster, reaching there as they could, even crossing the narrow sea in open boats. But they carried with them all their religious peculiarities, which became even more dear to them in this land of their exile, for the dangers and sorrows they had endured in their behalf.

"This is the race, composed of various tribes, flowing from different parts of Scotland, which furnished the population in the north of Ireland, familiarly known as Scotch-Irish. This term, Scotch-Irish, does not denote admixture of the Scotch and Irish races. The one did not intermarry with the other. The Scotch were principally Saxon in blood and Presbyterian in religion; the native Irish, Celtic in blood and Roman Catholic in religion; and these were elements which could not very readily coalesce. Hence the races are as distinct in Ireland at the present day, after a lapse of two centuries and a half, as when the Scotch first took up their abode in that island. They were called Scotch-Irish simply from the circumstance that they were the descendants of Scots who had taken up their residence in the north of Ireland."

In their new country, these people, by their frugality, industry, and skill, soon became prosperous, and made the region into which they had removed rich and flourishing. They improved agriculture, introduced manufactures, were noted for the excellence and great reputation of their productions, and attracted trade and commerce to their markets. But the government of that day, never wise in their commercial relations or their governmental affairs, began to recognize them only in the shape of taxes and embarrassing regulations upon their industry and trade. In addition to these restrictions, the landlords (for the people did not own land, they only rented it), whose long leases had now expired, occasioned much distress by an extravagant advance upon the rents, which brought the people to a degrading subjection to England; and many of them were reduced to comparative poverty.

By their grievances, their patience at length became exhausted; and these self-willed Scotch-Irish, animated by the same spirit that moved the American mind in the days of the Revolution, resolved to submit to these oppressive measures no longer; and, by another change of residence, they sought a freer field for the exercise of their industry, and for the enjoyment of their religion.

"Ireland was not the home of their ancestors; it was endeared to them by no traditions; and numbers determined to quit it, and seek in the American wilds a better home than they had in the Old World."

About the beginning of the eighteenth century they began to emigrate to America in large numbers. So great was the emigration of this period that it threatened almost a depopulation of the Old Country. Such multitudes of husbandmen, laborers, tradesmen, and manufacturers flocked over the Atlantic that the landlords became alarmed, and began to concert measures to prevent the growing evil. At this time scarcely a vessel sailed for the colonies that was not crowded with men, women, and children. "They came principally to Pennsylvania, though some settled in New England, and others found their way to the Carolinas. It is stated by Proud, in his history of Pennsylvania, that by the year 1729, six thousand Scotch-Irish had come to that colony, and that before the middle of the century nearly twelve thousand arrived annually for several years. In September, 1736, one thousand families sailed from Belfast, on account of the difficulty of renewing their leases."

All these emigrants at this period were Protestants, and principally Presbyterian, few or none of the Catholic Irish coming till after the Revolution.

"Extensive emigration from the northern counties of Ireland was principally made at two distinct periods of time. The first, of which we have been speaking, from about the year 1718, to the middle of the century; the second, from about 1771 to 1773, although there was a gentle current westward between these two eras."

The causes of this second extensive emigration were some-

what similar to that of the first. It is well known that the greater portion of the lands in Ireland are owned by a comparatively small number of proprietors, who rent them to the farming-classes on long leases. In 1771, the leases on an estate in the County of Antrim, the property of the Marquis of Donegal, having expired, the rents were so largely advanced that many of the tenants could not comply with the demands, and were deprived of the farms they had occupied. This aroused a spirit of resentment at the oppression of the landed proprietors; and an immediate and extensive emigration to America was the consequence. From 1771 to 1773 there sailed from the ports of the north of Ireland nearly one hundred vessels, carrying as many as twenty-five thousand passengers, all Presbyterians. This was shortly before the breaking out of the Revolutionary war; and these people, leaving the Old World in such a temper, became a powerful contribution to the cause of liberty, and to the separation of the colonies from the mother country. Most of these Scotch-Irish emigrants landed at New Castle and Philadelphia, and from these places made their way northward and westward. One stream followed the great Cumberland Valley into Virginia and North Carolina; and from there colonies passed into Kentucky and Tennessee. Another large body went into western Pennsylvania, and settled on the head waters of the Ohio, in the vicinity of Pittsburg, and became famous in both civil and ecclesiastical history.

Such is a brief history of the people known as Scotch-Irish, and their emigration to this country. This race, "in energy, enterprise, intelligence, education, patriotism, religious and moral character, the maintenance of civil and religious liberty, and inflexible resistance to all usurpation in Church and State, was not surpassed by any class of settlers in the American colonies."

Pennsylvania owes much of what she is to-day to the fact, that so many of this race settled within her borders. It is supposed that not less than five millions of the people of America have the blood of these Scotch-Irish in their veins; and there is not one of them, man or woman, that is not

proud of it, or would exchange it for any other lineage. This race has already furnished five Presidents of the United States, seven governors of Pennsylvania, besides many important officers of trust and honor in many of the other States.

"The first public voice in America for dissolving all connection with Great Britain," says Bancroft, "came from the Scotch-Irish Presbyterian." A large number of them were signers of the Declaration of Independence; and throughout the Revolution, they were devoted to the cause of the country. The cause might have failed but for this timely help. Such a thing as a Scotch-Irish tory was unheard of; the race never produced one.

"The race is noted," says our author, "for its firmness, perseverance, and undaunted energy in whatever it undertakes; and those characteristics have aided in carrying it successfully through many a conflict. Whatever an individual with Scotch-Irish blood predominating in his veins undertakes, he generally performs, if in his power."

CHAPTER III.

SETTLEMENT.

Uncertainty as to the Early Settlers. — Names. — All came to Town. — Time of Settlement. — How Fixed. — Petition. — Time of Centennial. — Small Party, 1742. — Morison and Russell, 1743. — Visit of Indians to their Camp. — Their Theft. — Return to Townsend. — Frontier Line. — Danger of Settlement. — Causes that Retarded the Settlement of the Town. — No Permanent Settlements till 1749. — After Close of War of 1744 and the Quitclaim of the Masonian Proprietors. — Tardiness to Comply with it. — Causes.

THERE is great uncertainty as to the first settlement in Peterborough, and also as to the first settlers. The names of these persons, according to Mr. Dunbar's "Sketch of Peterborough," * were William Robbe, Alexander Scott, Hugh Gregg, William Gregg, and Samuel Stinson; but John Todd, Sen., who was high authority in the antiquities of the town, says they were William Scott, William Robbe, William Wallace, William Mitchell, and Samuel Stinson. It is probable that all the men mentioned by each of the above authorities were the first settlers of the town. Of many of them we know nothing, — tradition has only handed down their names. We have no genealogy of their families, and have not been able to obtain the least trace of Hugh Gregg, William Gregg, William Wallace, William Mitchell, and Samuel Stinson.

The time of the first settlement was supposed to be determined by an expression in a petition for an Act of Incorpora-

* See N. H. Historical Collections, Vol. I. p. 129.

tion Oct. 31, 1759, signed by Thomas Morison, Jonathan Morison, and Thomas Cunningham, which says:—

"That about the year of our Lord 1739 a number of Persons, in consequence of a Grant of a tract of land, had and obtained from the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, by Samuel Haywood and others his associates, granting to them the said tract of land on certain conditions of settlement. And in pursuance whereof a number of People immediately went on to said tract of land and began a settlement (tho then very far from any other inhabitants) which we have continued increasing ever since the year 1739, except sometimes when we left said Township for fear of being destroyed by the enemy, who several times drove us from our Settlement soon after we began, and almost ruined many of us. Yet what little we had in the World lay there, we, having no whither else to go, returned to our settlement as soon as prudence wood addmitt where we have continued since and have cultivated a rough part of the Wilderness to a fruitful field —the Inhabitants of said tract of land are increased to the number of forty-five or fifty familys and our situation with respect to terms we at first settled on are such that we cannot hold any Provincial meetings at all, to pass any vote or votes that will be sufficient to oblige any person to do any part towards supporting the Gospel, building a Meeting-house and Bridges, Clereing and repairing Roads and all which would not only be beneficial to us settlers to have it in our power to do, but a great benefit to people travelling to Connecticut river and those towns settling beyond us." To which the following is added: "Your petitioners beg leave to add, as a matter of considerable importance, that the only road from Portsmouth thro' this Province to number four is through said township of Peterborough, and which makes it more necessary to repair said Road within said Township, and to make many bridges which they cannot do unless incorporated, and enabled to raise taxes, &c."

This is almost all the history we have of the earliest settlement of the town. The time for holding the Centennial was fixed from this document, though no permanent settlements took place till 1749. It is probable that after a partial survey and a distribution of the lots among the original proprietors that each one of them made efforts to sell lots as he could, and

that these lots were sold to those who intended and, afterwards, actually did make the settlement. It is plain that none of the early settlers had removed their families to town before the year 1749; but it may be that much work had been done in clearing up the land purchased, and preparing it for culture, by a temporary residence of the owners.

Of the party that came in 1739, all were probably driven away, by fear of the Indians, before any considerable clearing had been made. In 1742,* a party of five, with their axes and provisions on their shoulders, came from Lunenburg and cleared a small patch of land near the old meeting-house. "They abandoned the settlement at, or more probably considerably before, the alarm of the war in 1744." Another attempt was made, some time before 1744, by William Mcnee, John Taggart, and William Ritchie, which was confined to the Ritchie hill, on the very south border of the town. Before leaving the settlement † they cut a strip of land on the end of their lots, about twenty rods wide, also all the underbrush, and girdled the large trees. When they returned in 1749 or 1750, with their families, this chopping had been burned by hunters, or the Indians, and was in good order for a crop of corn or rye. They had abundant crops the first year.

No other attempts at settlement were made after this, except the following, the account of which has been derived principally from the manuscript notes of Samuel Smith. He says that Capt. Thomas Morison, accompanied by a Mr. Russell, came to town as early as 1744, but more probably in 1743. Their camp was about twenty rods north of where the large barn was built, — about north-east of the Thomas Morison house. This camp, by other authority,‡ is said to have been made by the side of a great boulder, about in the position indicated above, having a perpendicular side six or seven feet high, against which the camp-fire was built. They selected for their encampment the beautiful spot indicated, which was near the banks of the "Great River," and between

* Centennial Address.

† Manuscript Notes of Samuel Smith.

‡ P. Transcript, Sept. 18, 1873, N. H. M.

two sheltering hills, with a pleasant valley widening southward into a broad, level plain, now one of the smoothest and most fertile fields in town. A gushing spring of pure water was close at hand, long after much used for purposes of washing. No spot in the neighborhood can compare with this for the shelter and convenience which it affords for a camp. After building a camp of green poles and hemlock boughs, in which they deposited their few provisions, consisting of salt pork and corn meal, which they had brought on their backs from Townsend. It is supposed that they spent but one night under its sheltering roof.

When Morison and Russell went out in the morning, they perceived two Indian men, a squaw, and a small Indian. They intended to be friendly to them, and spoke to them, and invited them to come in and take breakfast, which they did. The Indians certainly manifested no hostile intentions. They were probably fishing up the Contoocook River, as the smoke of their encampment was seen on the opposite side of the river, about where John Upton's house now stands. When they returned to camp at noon, after a hard morning's work at chopping, expecting to find the pork, which they had put into the pot, cooked and ready for their dinner, they found the pot empty, and every article of food which they had brought with them gone. The Indians across the river had visited their vacant camp, and stolen every edible thing which it contained, even taking the pork from the boiling pot, and probably the pot with it. The hungry men were obliged to thread their backward steps through the forests for more than twenty miles to Townsend, before they could get a morsel of food, or a substitute for their stolen dinner.

This incident is of more than common interest in the history of the town, as being the only well-authenticated account of any Indians coming near our early settlements, and then with no hostile intentions, although they were so terribly dreaded and feared by the people. We do not wonder at the great fear of the Indians in those times, as the Indian warfare had heretofore been of the most cruel character. No mercy was expected from them; no faith could be put in their prom-

ises; towards captive enemies they exhibited nothing but the cruelty and ferocity of the tiger. Besides, Peterborough was at this time a frontier town, and far from any other on which it could call for aid. At this time (about 1746 *), "a line drawn from Rochester and Barrington to Boscawen and Concord, thence through Hopkinton, Hillsborough, and Peterborough, to Keene, Swanzey, Winchester, and Hinsdale, constituted the frontier line. The whole region north of it, with the exception of small openings at Westmoreland and Charlestown, occupied by a few families, was a gloomy forest, — a fit lurking-place for savages." Peterborough, though so much exposed to Indian depredations, escaped wonderfully, never having been once molested, while most of the other frontier towns suffered largely.†

During the French war with Great Britain, the Indians in the employ of the French were lurking on all the frontiers of the settlements, and ready at any time to make assaults upon the most defenceless and helpless. This was especially the case in the French war from 1744 to 1748. In the later warfare with the Indians, there was less of cruelty and murder than ever before. The Indians were paid by the French so much a head for all the captives they could bring into Canada, which made them more humane in their treatment of captives. "So there were no instances of deliberate murder, nor torture exercised on those who fell into their hands. And even the old custom of making them run the gauntlet was in most instances omitted. When feeble, they assisted them in travelling; and in cases of distress from want of provision, they shared with them in equal proportions." During the war (1744–8), the French "kept out small parties engaged continually in killing, scalping, and taking prisoners. These prisoners were sold in Canada, and redeemed by their friends at a great expense. By this mode of conduct, the French made their enemies pay the whole charge of their predatory excursions, besides reaping a handsome profit for themselves."

There were other causes beside these that retarded the

* Whiton's History of New Hampshire, p. 89.
† Belknap's History of New Hampshire, pp. 287, 296.

settlement.* The boundary line between New Hampshire and Massachusetts was a long time in controversy, and the uncertainty that hung over their titles, their grant coming from the Massachusetts Legislature, which had no jurisdiction over the territory, and no rights in it to dispense, seemed to unsettle everything in relation to the new township.

The dispute with New Hampshire about boundaries had much to do with the grant of the town of Peterborough. This dispute had lasted seventy years. Massachusetts claimed all lands lying south and west of the Merrimack River, — claimed that her line started three miles north of the mouth of the stream, and run at that distance from the stream along its northern and eastern bank up to the Pemigewasset, where the river forks and where the town of Franklin now is, and thence due west to the south sea. Her boundary, according to her charter, was to run "everwhere" three miles north of, and parallel to, the Merrimack, to its head, and from a point three miles north of its head due west to the south sea. New Hampshire maintained that it was impossible to run a line "everwhere" three miles north of a stream flowing mostly southward; that in 1629 when the Charter of Massachusetts was given, the river was supposed to come from the west, and was not known to turn north; that the line could not be drawn according to the Massachusetts Charter, and, therefore, it ought to be drawn as near as possible to what was supposed to be the fact when the charter was given; *viz.*, that the river came from the west. She therefore claimed that the line should start from a point three miles north of the middle of the stream at its mouth and run due west to the south sea, or to other provinces. In 1731 commissioners appointed by the two provinces met at Newbury, disputed, and separated without deciding.

From 1732 to 1737 the discussion was particularly hot and bitter, the New Hampshire men being determined to have the question settled; and they finally referred it to the king for

* For the following in relation to the boundary of the State derived from the Massachusetts collection, Palfrey's "New England," and Belknap's and Sanborn's "New Hampshire," I am indebted to N. H. Morison, LL. D., of Baltimore, Md.

decision, who passed it over to the lords of trade. They referred it to twenty commissioners, to be taken from four other colonies not interested; *viz.*, Nova Scotia, Rhode Island, New York, and New Jersey, who met at Hampton August 1, 1737. Meantime, Massachusetts perceived that she was playing a losing game, and hastened to assert her authority by laying out numerous towns in the disputed territory before the decision should be made. She would thus secure much land to her own people. Among the grants thus hurried through at this time were nine townships, called Canada towns, because granted to Massachusetts towns for service rendered in the expedition to Quebec in 1690, six of which towns were in New Hampshire; among them was Rindge granted to Rowley, and Lyndeborough granted to Salem. We have not traced the other four. She at the same time granted seven townships to the officers and soldiers who served in the Indian war of 1675, called King Philip's war. Among these last were Amherst, then called Souhegan West, and Merrimack, called Souhegan East. Under spur of the same feeling, she now listened favorably to the petitioners, who, since 1722, according to their own account, had sought in vain for a township of land on which to settle, and granted their request without further delay.

The commissioners which met at Hampton, Aug. 1, 1737, agreed upon the northern, which is really the eastern, boundary of the State, admitting in full the New Hampshire claim, and greatly enlarging the province on that side; but they referred the southern boundary back to the king for decision. In 1740, the king in council confirmed the northern boundary as fixed by the commissioners, and decided that the southern boundary should run three miles north of and parallel to the Merrimack to a point north of Pawtucket Falls when the river turns north, and from that point should run due west. That is, like sensible men, they decided to execute the charter, so far as it could be executed, by following the north bank of the river; and when the river turned so as to have no north bank, they took a straight line. Had the river turned to the south, they said, instead of the north.

Massachusetts would have justly complained of a loss of territory by following the stream, and the same rule ought to hold now that the stream is found to come from the north. The course of the stream from Lowell to Newburyport is considerable north of east; so that by following the stream up three miles from its bank, the point from which the line was to run due west was carried fourteen miles south of the starting point claimed by New Hampshire at the mouth of the stream. This in fact gave to New Hampshire a strip of land fourteen miles wide, extending from the Merrimack to the Connecticut (fifty miles), and containing twenty-eight townships, more than she had ever claimed! In 1741, the new line was run by New Hampshire surveyors, Massachusetts refusing to take any part in it. This decision of the Privy Council transferred a large part, if not the whole town, of Peterborough from the jurisdiction of Massachusetts to that of New Hampshire. Had the line been run as New Hampshire claimed it should be, due west from a point three miles north of the middle of the Merrimack at its mouth, the State line must have passed through or near the northern part of the town.

This dispute about boundaries, the jealousy of Massachusetts, and, it is said, the direct promptings of her magistrates, aroused John Tufton Mason, the heir of the Masons, to assert and finally to establish his claim to the proprietorship of the soil extending sixty miles from the sea, which claim had been illegally sold in 1691 to Samuel Allen; and he offered to sell his claim to the province, through Tomlinson, the New Hampshire agent in London, for £1,000; but the long and bitter dispute with Massachusetts, the Indian war of 1744, and the expedition to Louisburg, in which Mason took part, so engrossed the attention of the province, that this offer was not accepted till it was too late. Wearied out by the long delay, Mason sold his claim, in 1746, to twelve proprietors of New Hampshire, men living in Portsmouth, for £1,500.

The property was conveyed by deed on the very day that the Assembly agreed to accept the proposition made to Tomlinson; and this gave rise to an angry discussion between the

government of the province and the new proprietors. This claim had always been an odious one to the settlers, seriously impairing the value of their land, and threatening some day to dispossess them of it entirely. To forestall the outcry which was sure to follow the purchase of this claim, the proprietors voluntarily and at once sent a quitclaim deed to all the towns that had been actually settled under a grant from either Massachusetts or New Hampshire; and to the proprietors of townships which had been granted but not yet settled they were extremely liberal. Their claim had been divided into fifteen shares; and their settlements with the townships was uniformly made by reserving one portion of land for each of their fifteen shares and one for each of their two secretaries, making seventeen portions of land in each township reserved to themselves. In the case of Peterborough, each one of these portions contained two hundred acres, making the thirty-four hundred acres reserved on the East Mountain.

In these very years, in which no permanent occupation of Peterborough was made, from 1739 to 1749, there arose a still more serious obstacle to the success of the settlement, — the claims of the Masonian Proprietors. We know not how much this claim retarded the settlement, but probably a good deal. The lots offered for sale with a doubtful title could not be sold; and it is significant that immediately after the quitclaim deed of the Masonian Proprietors was made, in 1748, the settlement went on with great success. The following is a copy of the quitclaim of the Masonian Proprietors: —

PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

At a meeting of the Proprietors of the lands purchased of John Tufton Mason Esq, lying within the province of New Hampshire, held by adjournment at the dwelling-house of Sarah Priest widow in Portsmouth in said Province on Thursday the twenty-sixth day of January Anno Domini 1748.

Upon reading and considering the petition of John Hill & John Fowle Esqs to have a grant of the said Proprietors of their right in that tract of land called & known by the name of Peterborough made to them and Jeremiah Gridley Esq and the heirs

of John Vassall Esq, deceased, for the reasons set forth in the said petition on file —

Voted, that for the said reasons, first reserving to the said Proprietors their heirs and assigns, the quantity of thirty-four hundred acres of the said tract of land to be laid as the said Petitioners & others interested as aforesaid shall think most convenient for promoting the said settlement, (but not be subject to any charge or Tax, until improved by the said Proprietors or those who hold under them or any of them) they have and hereby do grant on the terms and conditions hereafter mentioned, All their right title estate interest & property of in and unto the said tract of land, and quit their claim unto the said John Hill John Fowle Jeremiah Gridley and the heirs of the said John Vassall their heirs and assigns in equal shares, that is to say, the share of the said Heirs of the said John Vassall being equal to one of the other shares of the said Grantees they the said Grantees making a plan of the whole township and the lots therein and how the said reserved lands are laid out, and returning the same to the said Proprietors, —

Provided that in case either of the said Grantees of the said Shares shall neglect to perform & pay a proportionable part of all the duty and charge of making the settlement, then such delinquent Grantee shall forfeit his right and Share in said lands, to the owners or owner of the other Shares, who shall perform and pay the same.

Provided, also that the said Grantees settle forty families on said tract of land within four years from this time, and each family have fifteen acres of land cleared and fitted for tillage, — have a meeting-house built there, and preaching in the same constantly supported thence forward, but in case of an Indian war within the said term, the same time to be allowed after that impediment shall be removed.

Provided, also that all trees fit for his majesty's use for masting the royal navy be kept reserved and spared from waste and destruction, which are hereby reserved for and granted to the use of his majesty, his heirs and successors for the use aforesaid.

Copy of Record

Attest GEO: JAFFREY Junr Pro. Clerk.

Though this quitclaim seemed to be the end of the controversy, yet the matter hung on the proprietors for nearly

twenty years, till John Hill, the clerk, sent to the Masonian Proprietors the following letter, and plan of the town, which is found in a good state of preservation among the Masonian records in the possession of Robert E. Pierce, of Portsmouth:

BOSTON, May 22, 1765.

Sir,—I here enclose a plan of Peterborough and a plan of Hillsborough the reservations of the grant of the Proprietors of the lands purchased of John Tufton Mason Esqr are marked and described on each plan, which please to present said Proprietors with my compliments and dutiful regards to said Proprietors and you'l very much oblige your humble servant

JOHN HILL.

P. S. Please to acquaint me with the receipt of the same.
To Geo: Jaffrey Esqr at Portsmouth New Hampshire.

The following is the last recorded act of the proprietors:*

Sent the plan of Peterborough to Mason's Proprietors and wrote on it thus;

This is a plat of Peterborough town and the lots marked Mason are numbered from one to thirty-four inclusive are laid out by the Grantees of said town of Peterborough agreeable to the grant of the Proprietors of the lands purchased of John Tufton Mason Esq; the said lots contain thirty-four hundred acres, they are laid out where the said Grantees think it most convenient for promoting the settlement of said town, as by the said Proprietors quitclaim to the Grantees will appear. The prict lines and the numbered lots show so much of said town, that Col Blanchard left out on the west side of said town, and throw'd the town so much farther to the east, which was a great damage to the settlers and expense as well as damage to the Proprietors.

It is probable that this tardy settlement with the Masonian Proprietors was occasioned by an unwillingness on the part of the Peterborough Proprietors to comply with this condition of the quitclaim; *viz.*, "making a plan of the whole township, and the lots therein, and how the said reserved

* Copied from an attested copy from Proprietors' records by Judge Smith in 1787, which original records cannot be found.

lands are laid out, and returning the same to the said Proprietors," for this would admit the right of Col. Blanchard in cutting off a valuable strip of land on the west side of the town, and adding the same quantity of mountainous and worthless land on the east. It was finally thought best to comply with all the conditions of the Masonian Proprietors, — and thus ended this long controversy. It must, however, be acknowledged that the Masonian Proprietors dealt with great leniency with all the townships started under a false jurisdiction, and quite relieved their fears by assurances of their not being molested by complying with very mild and easy terms, which they carried out in good faith.

As far as we can ascertain, it would appear that from 1744 to 1749 the town was entirely deserted, not a single person having been here for the purpose of making improvements on the land, or even for a temporary residence.

It is probable that before this a number of persons had bought lots of land, and had made some improvement on the same; but during this cruel war of 1744 a strict non-intercourse was observed. It is hardly possible to conceive what a change has taken place in this region since that time. It was then a frontier town, and so continued for many years, and nothing but a wilderness lay between it and the Canadas. At home, it had no nearer neighbors than Townsend and Lunenburg. How rapidly has all this changed; what towns, villages, cities, manufactures, and business of all kinds have sprung up around and among us, — leaving us to wonder if, within so short a period, all these changes could have taken place. Never was there a more restless spirit than that in our ancestors; they pushed on fearlessly to take up land, and bravely endured the hardships of such a life. Belknap says, very justly p. 325, "The passion for occupying new lands rose to a great height. These tracts were filled with emigrants from Massachusetts and Connecticut. Population and cultivation began to increase with a rapidity hitherto unknown; and from this time may be dated the flourishing State of New Hampshire, which before had been circumscribed and stinted in its growth by the continued danger of a savage enemy."


Pollard & Hill, Boston
Lewis Smith

CHAPTER IV.

PETITION FOR INCORPORATION, 1759.

Name of the Town. — How Obtained. — Early Method Naming Towns. — Account of Earl Peterborough. — Not on Proprietors' Records till 1753. — Petition for Incorporation. — Town Charter. — First Meeting. — Record of Town Meetings. — Entire Loss of Town Papers. — Materials for Early History Sparse.

We know nothing in what manner Peterborough received its name. The author has heard his father (the late Hon. Samuel Smith) say that it was given in honor of the Earl of Peterborough, but by whom or how he did not know. This town, probably, like many of its neighboring towns, was not named till sometime after its settlement. The towns near Peterborough were known for a considerable time after their settlement as Monadnocks No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and so continued till a name was selected. It is significant that in a certain deed to Lieut. John Gregg, of the farm C, by John Hill, Dec. 6, 1743, it is described as in "East Monadnick." It may be that this was at first the designation of the town, which it so well represents in location, till near 1750. Previous to this the proprietors had called it the "township." It is first recognized in their records by the name of Peterborough, at their meeting held at Peterborough, Sept. 22, 1753.*

* For many of the following facts I am indebted to Nathaniel H. Morison, LL. D., Provost Peabody Institute, Baltimore, prepared from the "Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society," February, 1873, in a paper by Wm. H. Whitmore.

Many of the early towns in Massachusetts were named from English towns, often obscure ones, from which some one of the early settlers had emigrated. These early towns were all named in the act of incorporation, and not till 1732 was a town incorporated in blank. During that year Harvard and Townsend were so incorporated, the names being fitted in afterwards. This practice of incorporating towns in blank became more frequent from 1732 to 1760, when Bernard became governor. During his administration most of the towns were so incorporated, and the name filled in by him. This practice continued down to the Revolution. The first towns named from distinguished Englishmen were Berwick (1713) and Georgetown (1716). After this it became more common to give the names of persons, especially of noblemen, ministers of state, and other distinguished personages, to the new towns. From 1730 to 1774 most of the towns incorporated received the names of persons, English or American, as Amherst, Temple, Townsend, Mason, Fitchburg, Jaffrey, Fitzwilliam, Marlborough, Keene, Hancock, etc. It must be remembered that at the time Peterborough was settled these towns were supposed to be in Massachusetts.

There can be no doubt that the statement of Hon. S. Smith, that the town was named from the Earl of Peterborough, is entirely correct. It is in strict accordance with what had become a common custom in Massachusetts; and the proprietors, all of whom lived in that State, in so naming the town would but follow the general practice of their time. And there were ample reasons for selecting the Earl of Peterborough for this honor. That brilliant but eccentric nobleman, "the most extraordinary character of that age, not excepting the king of Sweden," says Lord Macaulay, was born in 1658, and died in 1735. His daring and brilliant exploits in Spain, during the war of the Spanish succession, where, landing with a small army of five thousand men, he maintained himself for two years against all the efforts of Spain and France to dislodge him, gaining victories over vastly superior forces, capturing important cities, raising in

a single day the siege of Barcelona, then in a desperate condition, by passing through the allied fleet, in a dark night, in a small boat with a single companion, and leading the English squadron to victory the next day, had captivated the imagination of Englishmen all the world over. He possessed in the highest degree many of those qualities which create and adorn a popular hero,—wit, courtesy, generosity, and reckless daring. Some of the settlers are known to have admired him, and it would be strange if the proprietors did not share in the general feeling of their countrymen. I think there can be little doubt, therefore, that admiration for the heroic deeds of Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, who had died eighteen years before, caused the title by which he was universally known to be selected as the name of the town.

In regard to the names of the towns in New England, it seems a great misfortune that many of the beautiful Indian names of the new territory were not adopted, and that the early settlers almost uniformly selected the English, Scottish, or Irish names, which are kept up even to the present time. In all the region of the Monadnock Mountain not one town received this beautiful name; and it is but recently that it has been applied to the railroad and to the East Jaffrey bank. Not one town on its borders received the euphonious name of Souhegan; and but one town in all the course of the Contoocook River received anything like its name; *i. e.*, Contoocookville.

The settlement went on prosperously up to 1759; but great inconveniences were experienced in the management of the common finances, and of all subjects of general improvement, as to roads, support of public worship, bridges, etc., and the settlers felt the need of being incorporated, so they could act for themselves, instead of being entirely dependent upon the proprietors. A petition was sent to the provincial legislature, signed by Thomas Morison, Jonathan Morison, and Thomas Cunningham, an authorized committee for this purpose, as seen in a preceding chapter.

Agreeably to this petition, the following act of incorporation was granted Jan. 17, 1760:—

PROVINCE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

{P. S.} George the Second By the Grace of God of Great Brittain France & Ireland, King Defenderof the Faith &c.

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas our loyal subjects, Inhabitants of a Tract of Land within our Province of New Hampshire, known by the name of Peterborough have humbly Petitioned & Requested us that they may be erected & incorporated into a Township & enfranchised with the same Powers & Privileges which other Towns within our said Province, by Law, have & Enjoy, and it appearing to us to be conducive to the general good of our said Province, as well as to the said Inhabitants in particular by maintaining good order & Encouraging the coulture of the Land that the same should be done.

Know ye therefore, that we of our special Grace, certain Knowledge & for the Encouragement & Promoting the good Ends & Purposes aforesaid by & with the advice of our Trusty & well beloved Benning Wentworth Esqr our Governour & Commander in chief & of our Council for said Province of New Hampshire, Have Erected & ordained & by these Presents for us our Heirs & Successors, Do will & ordain that the Inhabitants of the Tract of Land aforesaid or that shall Inhabit or improve thereon the same being Limited & Bounded as follows, beginning at a Burch Tree marked, standing at the South East Corner of the Premises, thence Running west six miles by the North Line of a Tract of Land, called Peterborough Slip, to a Beach Tree marked, thence North by the East line of two Tracts of Land, called the Middle and North Menadnock six miles to a Red Oak Tree marked, from thence East, six miles by Land claimed by Mark Hunking Wenthforth Esq and by Land claimed by the Heirs of Joseph Blanchard Esq deceased to a Hemlock Tree marked and from thence South Six miles to the Tree first mentioned Shall be & by these Presents are Declared & ordained to be a Town corporate and are hereby erected and Incorporated into a Body Politic & corporate to have a continuance two years only by the Name of Peterborough, with all the Powers & Authorities Privileges Immunities & Franchises which any other Town, in said Province by law hold & enjoy, — allways Reserving to us our Heirs & Successors all

which Pine Trees that are or shall be found growing & being on said Tract of Land fit for the use of our Royal Navy, Reserving to us, our Heirs and successors the Power & Right of Dividing said Town when it Shall appear Necessary & Convenient for the Benefit of the Inhabitants thereof — Provided, Nevertheless and it is hereby Declared, that this our Charter and Grant is not intended, or shall in any manner be construed to extend to or effect the Private Property of the Soil within the Limits aforesaid, and as the several Towns within our said Province of New Hampshire are by the Laws thereof Enabled & authorized to assemble & by the majority of the votes Present to choose all such officers and transact such affairs as by the said Laws are Declared. We do by these Presents Nominate & appoint Mr Hugh Willson to call the First Meeting of said Inhabitants to be held within the said Town at any time within Sixty Days from the date hereof giving Legal Notice of the time & design of Holding such meeting, after which the annual meeting of said Town for the choice of such officers & management of the affairs aforesaid, shall be held within the same, on the first Tuesday of January annually. In testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed.

Witness Benning Wentworth Esq our Governour & Commander in chief of our said Province of New Hampshire the 17th Day of Jany in the 33^d year of our reign & in the year of our Lord Christ 1760.

B. WENTWORTH.

By His Excellency's command with advice of Council.

THEODORE ATKINSON Sec.

Province of New Hampshire Feb. 5th 1760.

Recorded according to the original charter under the Province Seal.

THEODORE ATKINSON Sec.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Secretary's Office, Concord, Oct. 4, 1875.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the original record of the Charter of Peterborough.

A. B. THOMPSON,
Dep'y Secretary of State.

The following is a copy *verbatim et literatim* of the first meeting of the town:—

1760

Pursuant To an order from His Excelency Benning Wintworth Esqr Governer of his majasties Province of newhampshire the honourable his majasties Counsill of s^{d} Province by their Charter incorporateing of a tract of Land lying in s^{d} Province of the contents of about Six miles Square commonly called and known by the name of Peterborough authorizing and Directing me the Subcriber to call the first meeting of s^{d} Inhabitants to chuse town officers for the year insuing: These are thereforeto Give notice to s^{d} Inhabitants that they assemble & meet at the meetinghouse in s^{d} Peterborough on munday the Seventeenth day of march Instant at ten o' the clock in ye forenoon. first to hear the Charter of said township read & then to Proceed in chusing a town clerk and Select men & all other necessary town officers for the year Ensuing:

Given under my han and seal this ye First Day of march A. D. 1760. HUGH WILLSON.

all the freeholders and other Inhabitants Being met on s^{d} day according to the time appointed in the warrant: the Charter being read and the meeting being opened John Fargusson was chosen town clerk and then the select men which were as followeth Hugh Willson thomas morison Jonathan morison Gent^{n} Joseph Caldwell & John Swan jun^{r} were the Select men that weare Chosen by vote. it was also voted that Hugh willson Thomas morison & Jonathan morison Gent^{n} John Smith Thos Cuningham & John Robbe, Should be Surveyrs of the high ways this year. William Robbe Junr Constable James Robbe & Hugh Dunlap tithingmen. Thos archable & John Robbe Hogg Reifs fence viewers and Prisers. voted that Saml mitchel Alexander Robbe & William Smith be a Commitee to recken with the old Commitee. voted under the same head that William m^{c}nee william Smith and John Robbe be a commitee to invite regular minisers to Preach this year, &c.

The town started off with this meeting in a course of town legislation that has continued in uninterrupted succession, and with a fair record of the same, with two exceptions, to the present time. The proceedings of the first meeting that failed

to be recorded occurred in 1770, while Dea. Samuel Mitchell was town clerk; the second, under the clerkship of A. C. Blodgett, being the Presidential meeting of 1840. The early records are in a tolerable state of preservation, but they will have to be copied soon for more ready examination, if they are to be transmitted to succeeding centuries. This record of the town meetings is all the record of town proceedings that is preserved down to near 1790. Not a paper or tax-list of any kind can be found. It is supposed that these papers were accidentally destroyed or lost; or it may be that they were deliberately burned, as was done in a neighboring town, after the settlement had been completed.

Of course, with such sparse materials, it cannot be expected that a very extended history of the town can be made during this period; too much must rest on conjecture or surmise, or in inferences drawn from coincident events; and though, in the main it may be correct, the exact dates must be in a good degree conjectural.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS AND EARLY SETTLERS.

No Permanent Settlements till 1749. — All Residences before Temporary. — Great Increase from 1749 to 1759. — Causes. — Not Checked by the War of 1754. — Reasons. — Loyalty of the First Settlers, and Disasters to them. — The First Settlers of the Town.

THERE were no permanent settlements made in town till 1749, after the cessation of hostilities between Great Britain and France in 1748, and the settlement of the claims of the Masonian Proprietors. The settlers had had only a temporary residence in town in preparing their farms for the support of their families. After all danger of Indian depredations was removed, and their titles made sure, they came with their families, and the emigration for the next ten years was large, amounting to forty-five or fifty families, or nearly three hundred persons. Though another French war occurred in 1754, it did not seem to check the emigration; it is probable that they felt a greater security in their numbers, and also in the brave men who constituted the settlement. The early settlers grew wonderfully sagacious as to the arts and manœuvres of the Indians, and were able to meet them with a superior sagacity, with a superior use of fire-arms, and with all the arts and cunning the savage could exercise. Men who had, in part, to subsist by wild game became expert marksmen and were already most effective soldiers in any warfare. They rendered very efficient service in all the early French and Indian wars, though always reluctant to be amenable to mili-

tary discipline. These men were loyal to their government, and from this infant colony fourteen men were lost in the war of 1754. Of this number, seven fell in one disastrous moment by an Indian ambuscade near Lake George, Sept. 13, 1758, in Rodgers' Rangers; *viz.*, John Stewart, Robert McNee, John Dinsmore, Charles McCoy, David Wallace, William Wilson, and John Kelly.

As far as we can ascertain, the first settlers, who took up their permanent residence in town with their families from 1749, were as follows: —

William Ritchie came from Lunenburg, Mass., where he paid a poll tax in 1746, to Peterborough with his family, probably in 1749, and settled on the Ritchie farm, so called, in the south part of the town. His son John was born Feb. 11, 1750,* the first child born in town.

Dea. William McNee moved his family here May 1, 1752.† He occupied the place now owned by George Shedd, in the south part of the town, reaching to the south line of the same. He removed from Roxbury in Massachusetts. *Vide Gen.*

Dea. William McNee, Jr., was twelve years of age when his father removed to Peterborough. He removed to Dublin in 1760, and occupied the farm afterwards owned by Cyrus Piper; and after remaining there a few years, he returned to Peterborough, where he died. His oldest child Robert was the first male child born in Dublin.‡ He lived on the Pitman Nay place, begun by Ensign Joseph Caldwell, and lately owned and occupied by Joseph Upton. *Vide Gen.*

Joseph Caldwell (called Ensign), supposed to have occupied the Pitman Nay farm,§ which he sold, and which passed into the hands of Dea. William McNee, Jr., about 1765 or 1766. He built the first buildings on this farm. He removed from town about 1770. *Vide Gen.*

John Taggart came to town with his family about May 1, 1752, from Roxbury, Mass., having bought a framed house

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*See Record of Births, Vol. I., Town Records.
† S. S. Manuscript Notes.
‡ History of Dublin, p. 132.
§ S. S. Manuscript Notes.

that had been built on the Caldwell place, and removed it to his lot in 1751. His lot was probably the south part of the present George Shedd farm. He is represented in the "History of Dublin" as residing in Peterborough and Sharon till 1797, when he removed to Dublin, where he died Nov. 15, 1832, aged 82 yrs. *Vide Gen.*

Gustavus Swan begun the Samuel Morison place, in the south part of the town, and came to town from Lunenburg about the year 1750, before the birth of his second child, Robert, in 1752. He went early to New York to make brick, and his father, "old John Swan," came from Lunenburg, and lived and died on that place. He was the progenitor of all the Swans in town. The place was sold by his son, Lieut. John Swan, to Aaron Brown and a Mr. Stowell in 1774. Brown lived on it before the Revolution.* He was one of the selectmen in 1776, but after this we have no record of the man. The same place was occupied a few years by Mathew Wallace, and then sold to Samuel Morison in 1789. *Vide Gen.*

William Stuart came to town from Lunenburg about 1750, and occupied a farm just south of the William Smith farm. He was the father of Thomas and Charles Stuart. He died March 15, 1753, aged 53. He was the first man who died in town. He was buried in the little cemetery on Meeting-house Hill.

William Smith, son of Robert Smith, of Lunenburg, *vide Gen.*, settled on the west side of the street road in the south part of the town in 1751, or possibly in 1750, as he was married Dec. 31, 1751, and at that time began life with his wife on this place. The estate remained in the family till 1873. *Vide Gen.*

Samuel Miller, spelt formerly Millow, a race entirely distinct from the other race of the same name in town, though both came from Londonderry, removed to town in 1753, before the birth of his daughter Ann in 1754. He settled on a lot directly opposite William Smith's place on the east side

* S. S. Manuscript Notes.

of the street road. He had twelve children, the first eight of whom were born in Londonderry. *Vide Gen.*

Thomas Cuningham emigrated from the north of Ireland, and was of Scotch-Irish descent. It is somewhat uncertain when he came to Peterborough, but probably about 1750. He removed directly from Townsend, and settled on a lot north of the Dea. John Field place, on the east side of the street road. He left a family of eight children He died in Peterborough, Sept. 23, 1790, aged 84. The name of Cuningham was originally pronounced in Peterborough *Kinnacum. Vide Gen.*

Alexander Scott was among the five who made the first attempt at settlement in town in 1739 as represented in the petition for the act of incorporation. He, and probably the others, came from Lunenburg or Townsend. Little else was done except to purchase the land, and make a beginning. He settled on the west side of the street road, south of the Capt. Wilson farm, in 1750 or '51, and kept a tavern, as it was called in those days. The proprietors of the town met at his house, Sept. 26, 1753. He was a relative of William Scott, who came to Peterborough from Hopkinton. We know little of the man. He afterwards lived east of the old cemetery, and about 1760 removed to Dublin, and occupied the place where Thaddeus Morse now lives, on the borders of Monadnock Lake. He was the father of Maj. William Scott (long). *Vide Gen.*

*James Robbe,** supposed a son of William and Agnes Patterson Robbe, settled the Thomas Caldwell place where Charles F. Bruce now lives. After 1774 his name does not appear on the town records, nor is anything known of him after this. He has the births of three children recorded, in 1760, '62, '64. *Vide Gen.*

John White came to town about 1760. His first seven children were born in Lunenburg, — date of the last birth, Nov. 4, 1759. Two children were born after his removal to Peterborough; *viz*, Susan, m. David Grimes, and Dr. Jona-

* S. S. Manuscript Notes.

than White. Jeremiah Gridley and John Hill deeded to him the lot on which he settled of two hundred and sixty-eight acres, May 5, 1762. It is the same place afterwards occupied by Robert White, and now owned by Nathaniel H. Morison, Esq., of Baltimore, Md., and used as a summer residence. *Vide Gen.*

John Morison, the progenitor of the Peterborough Morisons, came to town quite early, somewhere from 1749 to '51, and occupied the place afterwards owned by Dea. Robert Morison, and now in possession of the heirs of the late Horace Morison. He was one of the first settlers of Londonderry, and resided there about thirty years before his removal to Peterborough, and then became one of the first settlers of this town, and lived here twenty-six or twenty-seven years before his death, 1776, aged ninety-eight. *Vide Gen.*

Jonathan Morison, his son, probably came at the time his father did. He was a great mechanic. He built the first grist-mill in town, on the site of the "Peterborough First Factory," in 1751, and was for a time the owner of the "Mill lot," * so called, which he purchased of —— Gordon, of Dunstable, containing sixty-eight acres, which he sold to James and Thomas Archibald, saddled with a mortgage to —— Gordon and Hugh Wilson. He was the first male child born in Londonderry. He left Peterborough late in life, and nothing is known of the time or place of his death. Supposed to have died somewhere in Vermont, about 1778. *Vide Gen.*

Capt. Thomas Morison came to town from Lunenburg in 1749, and built a house made of hard-pine logs ten inches square,† and moved his family in the fall of 1750, and his son Thomas was born in town April 20, 1751. He occupied what was called the "Mill farm," the same now occupied by Samuel McCoy, South Peterborough, and besides much adjacent land now detached from it. *Vide Gen.*

John Smith, son of Robert Smith, came to town from Lunenburg in 1753, and settled on the place so long occupied

* S. S. Manuscript Notes, p. 157.

† S. S. Manuscript Notes, p. 50.

MORISON HOMESTEAD.

by William Smith, his son, in the south part of the town. He raised a large family. *Vide Gen.*

*Dea. Thomas Davison** was born in Ireland, and first settled in Londonderry on his emigration, but removed to Peterborough about 1757, soon after his marriage. His first child was born Dec. 20, 1758. He settled a lot in the south-west part of the town, and owned a large tract of land bordering on Jaffrey. He had a large family; was a deacon in the Presbyterian church. *Vide Gen.*

Thomas Turner was born in Ireland in 1725, and was accompanied by his parents when he emigrated to America, both of whom died in town. He came to town quite early probably in 1751 or '52. When the proprietors of Peterborough met in town, September, 1753, they granted him fifty acres, or lot 92, adjoining his lot, No. 29, in consideration of his relinquishing to them lot No. 7, of fifty acres.

Dea. Samuel Mitchell came to town in 1759.† He bought, of James and Thomas Archibald, the "Mill farm," so called, of sixty-eight acres, on which had been built some years before, by Jonathan Morison, the first grist-mill in town. Dea. Mitchell deeded to Dr. John Young that part lying on the east side of the Contoocook, extending north as far as the Payson place, from Carter's Corner. He also sold a piece to Rev. Mr. Morison (supposed Rev. John M.), on the east side of the river, where the old town-house stood, — the present site of John N. Thayer's house. Having reserved to himself twenty-five acres, the part that was ultimately owned by Daniel Abbot, he sold all the lot to Asa Evans, about 1784, except ten acres before sold to John White, and what had been sold to Dr. John Young east of the River Contoocook. *Vide Gen.*

William Scott emigrated to America, accompanied by his father's family, in 1736, and first lived in Hopkinton, and is represented as one of the very first settlers of Peterborough. He took up his lot on the north side of the road, and between

* Letter of G. W. Moore, Esq.

† S. S. Manuscript Notes, p. 159.

the Carter and Hunt Corners. He left a large family. He lived and died on this place. *Vide Gen.*

William Mitchell, father to Isaac Mitchell, began the James Wilson place. Isaac succeeded his father, and next followed James Wilson.

Rev. Mr. Harvey, called old Mr. Harvey, probably began what was afterwards known as the Hunt farm. He was succeeded by James Houston, blacksmith.

Samuel Stinson. We know little of his genealogy except what is told by his gravestones. Four children are laid in the old cemetery,—died young; and one daughter married Thomas Stuart. He died in town, Sept. 3, 1771, aged seventy; his wife Feb. 18, 1784, aged ninety. He was one of the first settlers in town, and probably took up his permanent residence in 1749, with his family. He settled on the John Little place, north of the Meeting-house Hill. We have no means of knowing where he came from. Samuel Stinson never held any office in town. Moor Stinson was surveyor in 1767, and James Stinson in 1773. These are the only notices of the name on the town records.

William Robbe came from Lunenburg in 1739, but probably did little else but prepare for the settlement. He is the progenitor of all the Robbes in town. He was driven away by fear of the Indians, and did not return for a permanent residence with his family till 1749, '50. He settled on land west and north of the John Little place, afterwards called the "Mitchell farm." *Vide Gen.*

Samuel Todd, son of Col. Andrew Todd, of Londonderry, began the Todd place, so called. It was the first improvement made in this part of the town. About 1751 or '52, Samuel Todd and Dea. Samuel Moore came to town and purchased a lot of land, at a crown an acre, of the proprietors, John Fowle, John Hill, and Jeremiah Gridley, for four hundred and thirty-nine acres, comprising lots Nos. 57, 58, 66, 67, 68, according to a deed dated Nov. 15, 1753. This lot was in the north-west part of the town, and comprised the Todd and Spring farms. They held it in common about ten

years, but divided it a short time before Samuel Todd was killed by the falling of a tree. In the division Moore took the westerly part, while Todd improved the easterly. *Vide Gen.*

Dea. Samuel Moore came to town in company with Samuel Todd, and purchased land as related above. Dea. Moore, on account of the Indian war, returned with his family to Londonderry in 1754, and remained there till about 1762 or '63. He lived on the westerly part of the lot originally purchased, — the "Spring place," long since abandoned, on which he built a house. In 1779 he swapped this place with Dr. Marshall Spring, and began the farm where Benjamin and Jona. Mitchell lived and died there. *Vide Gen.*

John Ferguson. He came from Lunenburg, Mass. Tradition has it that he came to Peterborough before there were any inhabitants in town, and lived three months in a log cabin which he built a short distance west of Col. Norton Hunt's, and here sustained himself by fishing and hunting. If so, he was among the very earliest pioneers of the town. He purchased six hundred acres of land, comprising the Ferguson, Stuart, and Hadley farms. This he divided among his children. He probably came to town as soon as it was deemed safe after the close of the French war. He had six children, none of whom were born in town. *Vide Gen.*

*David Bogle** was at one time the owner of farm B, drawn by John Hill, one of the proprietors. He had two sons, Thomas and Joseph, who were bachelors, and one young daughter, named Martha, who was drowned in the Bogle brook, running through the same. This is all we know of the Bogle family. This farm contained five hundred acres, and extends nearly to the North Factory. A larger portion of it lies on the west side of the river. This farm was bought of the Bogles by Capt. William Alld, who came to town from Merrimack about 1778, and it descended from him to his son Samuel.

James McKean came from Londonderry about 1765, and

* S. S. Manuscript Notes, p. 139.

began the David Blanchard place. This lot lay east of the east line of the farm B, or Bogle farm, and was bounded on the north by Wiley, east by Miller, and south by Kelso Gray. The road began at the south-west corner and ran to the north-east corner, dividing it into about two equal portions. Jotham Blanchard took the north-west portion, and McKean held the eastern part. *Vide Gen.*

Jotham Blanchard. This is almost the only notice we have been able to make of this individual, aside from the town records. We know nothing of his family, or his antecedents, or the man, any farther than is recorded in the town records. He was a selectman in 1777, '78, '79; moderator in 1776, '77, '78, '80, '81. He was elected a representative to a convention held in 1783. With all these offices and honors of the town, not the least trace has been discovered in relation to him, as to where he came from, the time he first appeared, or whether he had a family, or what became of him after 1783, when he disappeared.

Maj. Samuel Gregg came from Londonderry and took up a tract of land in the north part of Peterborough, constituting a part of farm C, extending to the Contoocook River, about three miles north of the present village; the precise time is not known, but probably before 1760. It is the same farm afterwards owned by John S. White. His name does not appear on the town records till 1768. *Vide Gen.*

Lieut. John Gregg settled on the same lot C, on the east side of the Contoocook, and just south of Maj. Gregg, where his son James Gregg lived. It was deeded to him by his father, John Gregg, of Londonderry, Oct. 8, 1765. He came about 1759. It appears that the whole farm C was deeded to John Gregg by John Hill, of Boston, Dec. 6, 1743, as land granted to Samuel Hayward and others, "East Monadnicks." *Vide Gen.*

Hugh Wilson came to town for a permanent residence in 1752 or '53. He bought three lots a mile long that made six hundred acres, nearly a mile square, in the north part of the town. This land in the early settlement was supposed to be

the most desirable in town, but was found by experience to be cold, wet, and unproductive. The Pratt farm, now abandoned, constituted one of the lots. It embraced parts of the Mussey, the Hagget, the Melvin, and the Green farms. This was among the first settlements in the north part of the town. *Vide Gen.*

William McCoy was an early settler, though we cannot determine just the time he came. He made one of the first settlements on the East Mountain, on the farm afterwards occupied by John Leathers. He probably removed here in 1752 or '53. All his children were born here; the oldest born July 2, 1753. *Vide Gen.*

George McClourge was an early settler, and settled somewhere near the hill now known as the McClourge Hill. Nothing more is known of him or his family, except the record of the births of six children from August 22, 1752, to January 10, 1760. *Vide Gen.*

Thomas McCloud settled in the east part of the town; had a family of eight children, all born in town, beginning with Sept. 2, 1769, and extending to July 29, 1783. Of this family we know nothing more. *Vide Gen.*

Capt. David Steele came to town from Londonderry, with family, in 1760, and purchased the farm where he always lived, — the same afterwards occupied by Gen. John Steele. *Vide Gen.*

Samuel Miller, of whom we know very little, only that he purchased certain lots of land in the north part of Peterborough, for his sons, from the thrift and earnings of his wife in the manufacture of linen. *Vide Gen.* Two deeds are found, one from Jeremiah Gridley to Samuel Millər, of lot No. 50, July 28, 1756, one hundred and fifty acres; the other from John Hill to Samuel Miller, No. 51, April 24, 1758, one hundred acres. More land than this was purchased, though we have not been able to find the deeds. He gave a lot of land to Matthew, his son, which embraced the widow Parker place and adjacent lands; then two lots to James and William; that on the east side of the road to William, that on the west to James. John was settled on what was afterwards the Dr.

Smiley place. They all came from Londonderry, but the precise time it is difficult to fix. It must have been near the time of the date of the deeds in 1756. Samuel Miller probably never resided here as a permanent location. *Vide Gen.*

Joseph Hammill. We know little of this man, or where he came from, only that somewhere not far from 1770, he began the farm at Bowers's Mill, so called, now Russell's; built a saw-mill in 1778, and a grist-mill in 1781, and was the owner of considerable land in the vicinity. *Vide Gen.*

Maj. Robert Wilson removed to Peterborough from West Cambridge, Mass., in 1761, or 1762, soon after his marriage, and bought the farm and succeeded to Alexander Scott in a tavern, a few rods south of the Capt. Wilson place, on the west side of the road. The buildings, long since, were all demolished, and the place has been abandoned.

Dr. John Young came to town in 1763, from Worcester, Mass., as a physician. He lived and owned land at Carter's Corner, it being a portion of the Mill lot, lying on the east side of the Contoocook. *Vide Gen.*

Samuel Brackett came to town from Braintree, Mass., soon after his marriage, Dec. 17, 1765, and settled on a farm situated on the north border of the Cuningham Pond. He reared a large family of thirteen children. *Vide Gen:*

Thomas Little came to town in 1763 or 1764, from Lunenburg, and settled on a lot of land east of the John Little farm, long since abandoned.

Abraham Holmes removed to town from Londonderry about 1765. He settled in the north part of the town, near the mills, now Russell's. He raised a family of eleven children. An exemplary and pious man. *Vide Gen.*

Abel Parker was an early settler; but it is not known where he came from. He began land on the East Mountain, near, or part of, the Samuel McCoy farm, probably before 1760.

Elijah Puffer came to town from Norton, Mass., in 1764. He first located himself north of the Gen. David Steele farm, which he exchanged with Gen. Steele for wild land in the north-west part of the town, where his descendants now live.

CHAPTER VI.

HOME LIFE.

Home Life. — Apparent Austerity. — Fun and Humor. — Daily Family Worship. — Industry of all. — Hard Condition of Women. — Effects of Bible. — Intelligence of Settlers. — How Obtained. — Diet. — Wild Game. — Fish. — No Luxuries. — Articles Used. — Abundant. — Mode of Dressing. — Probably Insufficient. — Poor Dwellings. — All Attended Meeting. — Inconveniences.

THOUGH these homes might have been deficient in many of the amenities of modern life, yet there was a sincerity and truthfulness that made them beautiful. The state of the families and condition of society would be likely to give rise to a certain austerity in the heads of the same, and these might have seemed stern, allied somewhat to the old Scotch Covenanters; but it was not so. They were alive to all kinds of fun and humor, even sometimes of an undesirable kind to some individuals. No one's infirmity of temper or disposition was spared; no one's peculiarities respected; no one's mistakes or blunders palliated; all were made legitimate subjects of raillery and sport. They were especially addicted to bestowing on one another nicknames that followed them through life. And yet these homes were places where the sincere reading of the Bible and the daily worship of God were instituted; and where men were actuated by the truest and most substantial principle, always aiming to do right.

And here, too, at all times, from dire necessity, prevailed the greatest industry. All who were old enough were usefully employed. The children, from early childhood, were

trained in the hard paths of toil and continued labor. The condition of the women was peculiarly hard. They were required to cook and to prepare the food from a very inadequate supply of the raw material; to make the best of their very scanty means, with an entire absence of any of the modern luxuries. In addition, it devolved on them to carry on the home manufactures, by which the clothing of the entire family was supplied. It was a life peculiarly trying and wearing, and yet borne with great patience, and with thankfulness for all the mercies that came by their means, to their families and possessions.

It has always been an enigma to us how these early settlers became so intelligent and well-informed. There were no books in these early homes, always excepting the Bible, and now and then a stray volume of theological and speculative discussion, such as the "Marrow of Modern Divinity," or the "Self-Justiciary Convicted and Condemned." The Bible was thoroughly read without note or comment, and made the rule of their lives, as hardly ever since; and the effects of its teaching was apparent in the lives of all our ancestors. It did more to make these men what they were than any other circumstance in their lives.

Without this influence upon them, isolated as they were in the midst of the dense forests, and without much association, they would have been little better than barbarians. Under these influences, with their active perceptive powers, and ardent desire for information, they were the ready recipients of a vast deal of oral instruction from the best-informed among themselves. Their common-sense was predominant above everything. They became intelligent, they hardly knew how. At the beginning of the Revolution they found themselves able to grapple with all the abstract principles of government, and to see their situation at a glance. It is said that New Hampshire presented less disloyal men, or tories, in the Revolution than any other State in the Union. An ignorant and stupid race would have said: "Let well enough alone; they were well off; the hard times had not reached them"; but these men looked farther on to the full demonstration of

the principles avowed by their rulers, and gave up their wealth, their comfort, and their lives, even, to the support of their liberties.

The diet of the early settlers must have consisted principally of the products of the soil, together with the wild game of the forests and the fish of the streams. To the latter, always present when other things might fail, we are accustomed to attribute a great deal of their support. The woods were full of game, and fresh fish in any quantity could be obtained, with very little trouble, near their homes. The rest of their food must have been coarse. Indian meal, beans, salted beef and pork, milk, butter, and cheese, with such vegetables as they could raise, must have constituted their main living. We do not suppose, before the Revolution, that there was much indulgence in such luxuries as sugar, molasses, tea and coffee, spices, etc., and we are not informed that the sugar from the maple was much used. Flour, too, was not much indulged in. These articles named above, so indispensable now, could not then be easily obtained, if, indeed, they had any means for this purpose. Corn and rye bread made the great staple of general consumption for all classes.

But such food as they had was sufficient for all purposes of nourishment and strength in the elements of tissue-making; and their mode of living was one of their least deprivations in the new settlement. They had an abundance of such food as samp broth and bean porridge, coarse bread, milk, Indian puddings, and vegetables; so that only upon the women devolved the task of the preparation of an acceptable diet from so few materials.

The early settlers manufactured all their clothing at home. It consisted of fulled cloth for men's wear, and flannel striped with blue for frock and trousers. The women wore flannels dyed at home in such colors as they desired, with very little of the ornament found on the English or French goods of modern times. A calico dress, for a long time, was an expensive luxury that few indulged in. It has seemed to us, from all the facts we have been able to obtain on this subject, that the early settlers were not sufficiently warmly clad to

meet all the rigors of the climate that attended the first settlement in the primeval forests. We think of them as hardier men, and having more stamina than ourselves, so that they did not need all the warmth now required; as men who did not suffer in winter from cold, even when clad in what would hardly make summer clothing for us. Nevertheless, the query comes up, whether there was as much longevity among them as we have been accustomed to think, and whether these hardy lives were not abridged from a scanty wardrobe, and a bold disdain of the cold, as though they could vanquish the elements by their will. To this we should add that their dwellings lacked all the comforts and conveniences of modern life. They were open, cold, and uncomfortable, and it required much hardihood to endure the exposure to which all were subjected in abodes so imperfectly constructed. We can hardly imagine how they could live in such houses, and carry on so much work besides the regular household duties; but they had made up their minds to receive everything in the best spirit, in hopes of better and more prosperous times to come, and thereby they made of their hovels, of their wretched cabins, and half-built houses, homes consecrated to religion, and to all the social and moral virtues. We suppose the training of the children was in rather the patriarchial mode,—the father's will being the rule and end of all domestic power. The children were brought up to early and continued labor, without much relaxation.

In the early settlement, all the people attended public worship regularly. When they lived three or four miles from the meeting-house, in bad weather or in the winter, the great sacrifice it must have been to them in comfort and health, cannot be easily estimated by those who are accustomed to our comfortable and convenient houses, and warm winter clothing. Most of them had to walk to church. There were few horses, no carriages among them, and then with insufficient clothing for such an exposure as sitting in a cold meeting-house for two services, each from one and one-half to two hours in length, they must have come home, not simply unrefreshed, but chilled and fatigued by the hard service of the

day. It seems, for once, as if the common-sense of the people had forsaken them, in making their places of worship so repulsive, and so detrimental to health as well as comfort. It was little better than cruelty to inflict such duties upon these men; yet public opinion compelled all to comply with this custom; and we suppose it might have been one of the duties of the tithingman to see to it if any one persisted in staying at home.

CHAPTER VII.

HOME MANUFACTURES.

Home Manufactures. — Flax preceded Wool. — Wolves Common.—Process of Preparing Wool. — Articles Manufactured. — No Machinery but Home-made, Cheap, and Rude. — Was a Business. — Prices. — Flax Culture a Great Business. — Flax Crop Profitable. — Process of Preparing Flax. — Great Skill. — All Families Engaged in Manufacture. — Decline after Revolution. — All now Passed Away.

For many years after the first settlement of the town, perhaps almost to the beginning of the present century, all the clothing of both sexes was manufactured by the women at home. The flax manufacture probably preceded the woollen, as the town was so exposed to wolves at that time that it was not safe nor profitable to keep sheep. It is related in the manuscript sketches of Samuel Smith that in 1783 they destroyed fifty sheep in one night, belonging to Capt. Thomas Morison and his son, Samuel Morison. Much wool no doubt was raised, notwithstanding these obstacles; they could not, at this time, have imported or paid for such a necessary article. This manufacture was then entirely accomplished by hand. The fleeces of wool were torn to pieces, and all the dirt carefully picked out. Then it was greased and prepared for the cards by placing boards on the wool, and on these heavy weights, and then pulling the wool from under the edges of the boards, in small parcels at a time. Wool-breaking was made a recreation. Invitations would be given to the women, for the distance of two or three miles to assemble with their cards, and assist in breaking the wool for carding.

It was a good task for fifteen or twenty young women to break as many fleeces in an afternoon; and it required a great deal of physical power to accomplish it. Such a recreation was succeeded by the assembling of the young men in the evening, and ended with the usual amusements and games of the day.

The wool manufacture was a very important item in the ancient household. It was all done by hand, there being at that time no labor-saving machines. The wool prepared as above represented was first carded and made into rolls, and then spun on the large wheel, to which a wheel-head, greatly increasing the speed of the spindle, was added about 1800.

It was then woven into the kind of cloth needed—for all the family were dressed in homespun,—thick cloth for men's wear, often not fulled; and flannel for women's garments, which when used for dresses was dyed at home, of such colors as they desired. In addition, large quantities of wool were used for making blankets, stockings, and leggings. The first clothier in town was William Powers, from Ireland, who commenced his business on the brook, near Mr. J. Milton Mears', in 1777. At first it is probable that he only colored and dressed cloth, but afterwards put in machinery for carding wool.

All the implements needed in these manufactures were made among settlers themselves,—the little foot-wheels for spinning linen; the large wheels, so called formerly, and the wheel-head subsequently invented; all necessary reels, quill-winders, spools, warping-bars, reeds, harnesses, and looms. They were almost independent of the rest of the world. Where their cards were procured, we do not know. Every home was furnished with a complete set of all these instruments and machines for manufacture. They were exceedingly cheap as well as rude, requiring little or no use of any iron appliances beyond the bare spindle. So great became the demand for these articles that a number of persons carried on the wheel-making business, so that the wheels were peddled through the country. The foot-wheels were usually sold at $2.00; the great wheel at $1.00, or with brass

boxes and iron axle, at $2.00. The patent head came into use about 1800, and was first sold at $2.50; but the price was afterwards reduced to 50 cents; the quill-wheel $1.00, and the clock-reel sold for $1.00 each.

The flax culture was a great business with our fathers. Every farmer had his plat of ground for flax, which was the most profitable of all his crops. The seed would often pay for the cultivation, which was generally sold in town, and manufactured into linseed oil.

The flax, when grown to maturity, was often pulled by the women; and, after the seed had been thrashed out, it was spread out on the grass to rot; and when rotted sufficiently, was bound up in bundles, and in this form was dressed; that is, the flax and tow were swingled out from it. Scarcely any crop, while growing, was so beautiful as the flax. From one-half to two bushels of seed were sown on an acre, and the crop amounted to about two hundred pounds. The flax was usually manufactured by the families that raised it. Great skill was required in the work, which we suppose they brought with them from Ireland. Equally with the inhabitants of Londonderry, they produced manufactures which always commanded the highest price in the market. And all this was accomplished in the various households, and with such machinery as they could cheaply supply themselves with at home. It is confidently asserted that the sales of linen thread, cloth, diaper, etc., amounted to more than all the other products of the town, and was the most efficient cause of its early prosperity. Hardly a family could be found that did not, more or less, engage in this manufacture, enough certainly for its own consumption.* "It was by manufacturing linen in its various forms, and butter (but principally the former), that the wife of Maj. Robert Wilson raised funds for the education of her son, Hon. James Wilson, both at the academy and college. She set herself (says her grandson, Gen. James Wilson) to manufacturing linen and butter, and everything else the farm would produce. These things she

* Letter Gen. James Wilson, Peterborough *Transcript*, Jan. 27, 1872.

would put upon a pack-horse, and taking another saddle-horse herself, she would start off leading the pack animal by the bridle, and thus she would make the journey to Boston and sell her marketing twice in the year, take the money to her son at Andover or Cambridge to pay his way,—for board, tuition, books, clothing, pocket-money, etc. Remember that Peterborough is over sixty miles from Boston; and that in 1783, and some years subsequent thereto, there were no open wrought roads for travellers to follow, only a line of marked trees, for much of the way, to guide the wayfaring man or woman."

Very much is due to the industry, skill, and economy of the women for the prosperity of this town, and for the education of so many of her sons abroad. The thirty-first chapter of the Book of Proverbs may be aptly applied to the mothers of Peterborough.

The linen manufacture was continued till the cotton mills were started in town, about 1810, when farmers began to raise less flax, and in a few years it entirely ceased. So the present generation, and almost its predecessors, never saw any flax growing in the fields.

All these things are entirely passed away. The great wheel with its wonderful new head, the wheel-pin, the little wheel and distaff, the quills and quill-wheel, the clock-reel, swifts and hatchel, coarse and fine cards for tow and cotton, spools and warping-bars, reeds and harness, looms and all their appendages,—all, all have long since gone to the attic or to destruction in all our households. The exhilarating buzz of the little spinning-wheels, the peculiar whirring of the large wheels, and the constant click of the loom are heard no more.

CHAPTER VIII.

AMUSEMENTS AND SOCIAL HABITS.

Difficulties of the Subject. — The Use of Spirit. — Its Dangers not known. — Its Excess an Abuse. — Wrestling an Amusement. — Quoits. — Social Gatherings. — Mode of Recreation. — Spirits used Freely. — Conversation Useful and Instructive. — Various kinds of Recreations. — Raisings, Huskings, Log-rollings, Quiltings, Apple-parings, and Parties to Destroy Wild Game. — Trainings and Musters. — Election Days. — Horse Racing and the Horse Jockeys. — Bowling Alleys.

THERE is much difficulty in fully ascertaining the facts in relation to the amusements of the early settlers. It is probable that in times of so much hardship, during the fierce French wars, and the constant fear of Indian depredations, there was very little of any kind of recreation among the people. Their first object was to live, and their bodily powers were already sufficiently taxed to forbid any kind of amusements that required much active exertion. The social element was always rife among them, — they were all brothers and sisters, and had one common interest in the general welfare of society. We often look with surprise, nurtured by this element more than any other, upon the habits of drinking rum, so common with all in those days. It seems never to have entered their minds that there was either crime, or folly, or uselessness in this habit. Liquor was found in all their houses, not for any domestic use externally, or simply for essences or camphor, but for a beverage. It was dispensed to all, both old and young, as the greatest token of hospitality

that could be given. They never seemed aware that there was any danger from its use, — that it had any deleterious effects upon the body, or worked infinite mischief to mind and soul. It was the first thing in all the assemblages of men. At log-rollings, huskings, raisings, etc., it constituted an important appendage in all their visiting.

It was essential at all births, and, for a long time, at all funerals, so that our ingress into the world no less than our egress from it was accomplished by its aid. It was used equally by all classes; it was free in all the houses to its inmates and to strangers, and we can only wonder that they did not all of them become drunkards. No one then had come to see the evils of this habit; the drinking was thought all right, while they only condemned the abuse of it. Now and then a poor drunkard was made; he was pitied, but his case afforded no warning to the rest, and occasionally some of the best of society would be overcome by its influence, but it occasioned no alarm. They could not work without it, and they believed that they could not live without it. So it passed as one of the essentials of life. It seems strange to us that they were so slow to see the evils the habit brought upon them, for they often suffered from drunken broils, and were often spectators of quarrels and fighting produced by drink, — and yet they could not see the necessity of abandoning its use. Even when respectable and good men were carried away by their excesses, and lost their good character in the community, they yet failed to see the folly and mischief of such an extravagant use of spirits.

At all the public gatherings at an early period, the most prominent amusement was wrestling, and there was always a champion in these games in every community. It is said that when James Wilson entered Harvard College, 1785, that wrestling was then the most popular of college games; that he took the badge for this feat in his freshman year, and retained it during the whole period of his college life. There is good authority for this statement. Sixty years afterward, upon the introduction of his son (Gen. James Wilson) to the late Hon. John Q. Adams, he said, when ascertaining his

parentage, "Your father was the best wrestler in college." It is to be inferred that Mr. Wilson was trained to these sports by the general resort to them in his native town. How long the custom prevailed we are unable to say. There has been but little of it since the present century came in. The sport, which so tested the strength and muscles of the contestants, was not altogether without danger, for it did occur occasionally that an individual became seriously injured for life.

The more innocent game of quoits was often engaged in. But men who had so much use for their muscles and activities at home, could not, we think, make these sports very frequent. In their social gatherings we do not know how the adults amused themselves; they had no cards or games, yet their meetings were pleasant and agreeable to them, — many think that there was much dancing among the older inhabitants at their social gatherings; the younger classes would resort to button, hunt the slipper, blind man's buff, and also to dancing.

It may be said, if it is any excuse for our fathers, that at these parties there was no serving of tea and coffee as now, so that ardent spirits were made the substitute. The people were eminently social, and many of them excellent talkers, so they could have an agreeable time without any artificial means. In this manner, probably, most of their social parties were conducted. In those times men's ears were open to hear the best informed talk, and these conversations were full of wit, sarcasm, and solid information. It was then almost the only mode of acquiring information of the passing events of the day. There were few newspapers or periodicals that came to their homes, and books were quite as scarce; it was only a few who could keep themselves posted up to the passing events. There must have been an interest in these conversations far beyond anything now existing, when every man is supposed to be capable of reading for himself with such increased facilities of information, and judging on all these matters which were then communicated orally.

There were other modes of recreation that were useful and remunerative. Huskings were often made, in which the people came together, and husked out all their neighbor's corn in

one evening; and after free libations of liquor, a good supper, and a social chat, they returned home.

Raisings were another occasion of assemblage and enjoyment. Buildings were then made of such massive timber that it required a large force to erect a building, which was done solely by muscular power, all appliances of the modern invention of pulleys used now for this purpose being entirely ignored. On these occasions liquor was always free to all who came to work or to look on. These raisings were usually important events in every neighborhood, and all the people near came to witness and enjoy them. Log-rolling was another mode of useful recreation. When a man had felled a considerable space of ground, covered as it was with its primitive growth of large timber, it was impossible for him, without aid, to get the logs together so as to burn them. He made a log-rolling, invited all his neighbors, who came, and with good will and strong muscles brought the logs together, and the work ended with a good supper and a social good time.

Quiltings were another mode that called the people together, the women doing the quilting in the afternoon, and the men assembling in the evening for a social entertainment.

Apple-parings often called them together, when with a knife, for no apple-parers had yet appeared, the knurly and natural fruit of the orchard was pared for the apple-sauce of the winter. No grafted fruit was then known; and how very few native good apples then existed is only now known to the older inhabitants. The orchards were very productive, but the fruit was very poor. Another kind of recreation must be mentioned, but with very little approbation, for it was both cruel and destructive, — I mean that of parties pairing and pitting themselves against each other, to see which would destroy the most of the wild game of the forests, a scale of counting having beforehand been agreed upon. By this cruel and thoughtless destruction of wild animals for no useful purpose, our woods were often cleared of most of their game. This feat of useless and destructive policy against wild game has come down to our times. Within a few years a great

company was organized, and ranged through all the woods within twenty miles of Keene, to destroy all the wild animals that then existed, for mere sport! — to see which party could destroy the most!

We must not omit to mention the great place which the military trainings occupied in the public mind. These trainings were always attended by the people, and a deep interest manifested in keeping up this organization. Musters were afterwards very popular, and were frequented by large numbers and with much interest.

Also the election day, the first Wednesday in June, since the adoption of the present constitution of New Hampshire, has been kept as a holiday, and till within a few years very generally observed.

Late in the last century, and in the beginning of the present one, horse-racing was one of the sports of the time, and the general place of resort was the Evan's flat, on the road south of Albert Frost's. This, no doubt, originated with the horse-jockeys, a class of idle, gossipping, drinking fellows who, for a considerable time molested the community. They each owned one horse or more, and an old watch, and thus equipped they started out on their business. They would assemble at one of the stores in town, and here would banter, put their miserable steeds on trial occasionally, trade watches, — in the meanwhile, each in succession, unless other means were devised to obtain toddy, calling for the drink, till they were all pretty essentially intoxicated. We have a distinct recollection of John Taggart * (Pistol John, so-called), and his brother Abner, Theodore Broad, Jerry Carlton, and others not remembered. A more worthless set of vagabonds never infested society; nobody ever knew one thing that they were good for.

Still later the bowling-alley was much resorted to, and became such a source of dissipation, the games all being made for strong drink, that the Legislature of the State was obliged to interdict its use.

* At the Temple muster, in 1807, he was wounded in the neck by the wad of the pistol of some one near him, and his carotid artery injured. It so eroded in a few days that it burst while Dr. Twitchell was present. He took it up and tied it, and saved the man's life, though he had never heard that it had been done before.

CHAPTER IX.

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

First Meeting-houses. — Rev. John Morrison. — His Scandalous Ministry according to a Petition from Inhabitants of Town to be Released from his Support. — Dismission. — Settlement Rev. David Annan. — His Ministry. — Complaint of Elder Moore. — Dismission. — Calls to Rev. Abram Moore and to Rev. Zephaniah S. Moore, D.D. — Ordination of Rev. Elijah Dunbar. — His Ministry. — Causes of Dismission. — The Different Ministers in Congregational Unitarian Society. — Presbyterian Society. — Formation of New Society. — Methodist and Baptist Societies. — Catholic Church.

We have no means of telling when the Presbyterian Church was formed in town. The records of the church were destroyed in the conflagration of Dea. Robert Morison's house, in 1791, and so through the ministry of Rev. John Morrison, and that of Rev. David Annan, we have no account of deaths or marriages. And then the affairs of the church were exceedingly complicated, being interwoven with the history of the town. The town managed all its financial matters, and all matters relating to the meeting-house. The ministerial support was levied by a public tax, and the procuring of preaching devolved on a special committee chosen for this purpose, or on the selectmen. A Presbyterian minister, by the name of Johnston, came early with the settlers, and remained about a year, after which they were subject to frequent changes, procuring supplies as they could. Rev. Mr. Harvey preached for a time, and in 1764 the Rev. Mr. Powers.

The first house for public worship was erected in the year 1752, under the proprietary management. It is first mentioned after incorporation, in 1761, when sixty-eight pounds were voted to repair the meeting-house, and purchase the land on which it stood. "To protect meeting-house from falling trees and fire, each surveyor, with all his gang, should work one day to clear about the meeting-house, and clear the graveyard and fence it." "Voted, To enlarge old meeting-house by an addition eighteen feet long on south side, and as wide as the old house is long, and join roof of addition to that of old house." In 1763, "voted to lay a floor and build plank seats, and glaze windows in meeting-house." "Voted, To demand of Alexander Scott the 'neals' given by the proprietors." The old house is not again mentioned except in the following vote of 1774; *viz.*:—

"Voted, To build a new meeting-house upon the ten acres of common land, where the old one stands and some distance west from said house." Chose William Smith, William Robbe, and Henry Ferguson a committee to carry the same into effect. "Voted also one hundred pounds toward the same, and that it should be framed, boarded, clapboarded, shingled, and glazed by the committee one year from the date, which will be in 1776." We know not the cause of the delay, but the house was not raised till 1777, and remained in an unfinished state a number of years.

In 1779 we learn that the town released Mr. Comings with regard to the obligation to build the meeting-house, and allowed him certain sums for his labor, and at the same time voted to finish the new meeting-house, and lay the under floor, and have windows for the lower story. The house remained unfinished till 1784, when a committee was chosen to let out the building of the pews and the finishing of the meeting-house, and in 1785 there was action of the town in relation to the galleries, and after this there was no more legislation, only votes to move the meeting-house to a more convenient place, in 1795; and if the town cannot agree, the subject to be submitted to a committee from out of town; in 1797, also to move meeting-house, if they can agree upon a

place to set it; in 1798 it was "voted to set the meeting-house a little to the east of the house that Thomas H. Blood (Dr. Blood) now lives in (Carter's Corner) when built or moved." I find no other action in regard to the house, only that in 1812 it was voted to make a thorough repair of the meeting-house, and one hundred dollars voted for the same in 1813. In same year, April 6, "Voted that the town be at one-half of the expense of purchasing a stove, on condition that the other half of expense is done by subscription, said stove to be the property of the town, and to be kept in the meeting-house." In 1816 it was voted not to repair meeting-house, so no repairs were made on the house, nor, indeed, did a stove ever get within its walls.

An effort was made to fix upon a location for a new meeting-house in 1816, and a committee from out of town was selected; *viz.*, Nahum Parker, of Fitzwilliam, Samuel Bachelder, of New Ipswich, and Benjamin Pierce, of Hillsboro. It was not till 1819 that this committee was called on to act. The town chose David Steele, Jonathan Faxon, Thomas Steele, Nathaniel Holmes, Jonathan Smith, James Cuningham, Robert Swan, Hugh Miller, David Carter, Adam Penniman to wait on committee of location and see that all necessary admeasurements be made, and all necessary information be furnished, and notify them to come as soon as convenient.

This committee was assembled in June. As preparatory to their decision, the distances were accurately measured from every dwelling in town to a central point, with the number of each household: those in the south-east to Hunt's Corner; those in the south-west to Carter's Corner; those in the west and north-west to Smith's Bridge; those in the north-east to John Little's Corner; the same being laid down on a plan, now in good preservation, by Caleb Searle, June 19, 1819.

This committee, after a careful examination, fixed the place of location for the new meeting-house, north of the house of James Wilson, on the west side of the street road, about midway between the house aforesaid and the old cemetery. The decision did not prove satisfactory to any body. At a town

meeting, Sept. 13, 1819, Samuel Smith, moderator, "Voted not to accept the report of the locating committee." "Voted not to repair the meeting-house." The old house continued to be used for some years only during the summer season, the meetings being held in school-houses in the winter, till 1825, when it was finally abandoned. In 1829 we find the following vote, "Voted to sell the old meeting-house forthwith." Sold to William Scott for $75.25.

Rev. John Morrison, of a race entirely distinct from the Morisons of the town, was the first settled minister (see Genealogical Record for his history). Mr. Morrison was offered sixty pounds sterling and one hundred acres of land, or one hundred dollars in money, if he accepted the call. The land was given by the proprietors. His yearly salary was forty-five pounds in our currency, and an increase when the number shall increase to one hundred families. Then to be fifty pounds a year. It was voted that his settlement be assessed forthwith. Mr. Morrison complied with the offer, and was ordained Nov. 26, 1766, no account of the ordination having come down to us. It was an unfortunate ministry for the town, and great uneasiness and dissatisfaction were soon manifested by some of the best men of the church. It appears that a petition was made to the Provincial Legislature, dated Nov. 27, 1771, praying to be released from the support of Mr. Morrison, and was signed by the following persons; *viz.:*—

William McNee,	Hugh Wilson,
Samuel Miller,	Samuel Mitchell,
James Cuningham,	James Taggart,
William Cochran,	William McNee, Jr.,
John Wiley,	Alexander Robbe,
Matthew Miller,	David Steele,
James McKean,	John Smith,
William Miller,	Robert Morison,
James Miller,	Joseph Hammil,
Neal Hammil,	Samuel Cuningham,
Samuel Wilson,	Thomas Little,

James Wilson,
John Gregg, Jr.,
John Wilson,
Daniel Mack,
Jasaniah Crosby,
William Moore,
John Mitchell,
Elijah Puffer,
John Puffer,
Hugh Gregg,
Abraham Holmes.

Journal C. & Assm., from May 22 to Dec. 31, 1771. The petition of Sundry of the Inhabitants of the town of Peterborough setting forth, that about 5 years ago the Rev'd John Morrison was ordained to the work of the Ministry there, since which, he has been repeatedly guilty of ye gravest immoralities, such as Profane Swearing, Drunkenness, Lewdness, &c., and therefore Praying the Interposition of the Legislature to release them from their obligation to support him, &c. Read and sent down to the assembly. Hearing ordered by the house. Provincial Papers, Vol. 7, pp. 291, 292.

The vote for a hearing in the Council was reconsidered, and Dec. 18, 1771, it was ordered that the petition be dismissed. And in the house of Representatives, Dec. 20, 1771, the above vote in the Council being considered, it was proposed that the petition should be dismissed; accordingly, the question being put, it passed in the affirmative. Provincial Records.

Mr. Morrison relinquished his connection with the society in March, 1772. During his ministry his conduct became so scandalous that at a Presbyterial meeting held at this time, he was for a time suspended from his office. He is represented as possessing more than ordinary talent. He was but twenty-three years of age when he commenced his ministry.

The town was without a minister till 1778, the pulpit being supplied by the town authorities with such men as could then be procured, preaching, nevertheless, being pretty constantly maintained. The early settlers had great faith in a regular maintenance of the preached gospel.

Rev. David Annan was called in 1778, having been ordained at Walkill, N. J., October, 1778, with Peterborough for his destination. He was brother of Rev. Robert Annan, a man of superior talents, who was for some time a pastor of the

Federal Street Church, in Boston. Mr. Annan came to America when young. He received his education at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J., where the degree of A.M. was conferred on him in 1782. The pastoral connection of Mr. Annan with the society in Peterborough continued fourteen years, until it was dissolved at his request, in 1792, by the Presbytery of Londonderry. In a complaint against Mr. Annan by Elder Samuel Moore to the Presbytery of Londonderry, to be holden at Peterborough, Aug. 30, 1788, drawn up in the handwriting of Judge Jeremiah Smith, whether ever acted on we have no means of knowing, it charges, 1st, That the Rev. Mr. Annan, as appears from his private conversation, as well as his public performances, has neglected the study of useful knowledge, the reading of good books, and especially of the holy scriptures, — and hath not given himself to study, but has frequently, as he himself confesses, gone into the pulpit without any preparation, and thus hath served the Lord with that which cost him nothing, and hath not by his discourses edified or improved the flock committed to his care. That Mr. Annan's "conversation and behavior and manners have been of a kind different from those recommended by the apostle and essential to the character of a gospel minister, who is an example to the flock, — his conversation not seasoned with salt, but generally upon trifling subjects; his behavior not being sober, but light and vain; and his conduct and manners irreverent, sometimes indecent, and unbecoming the character of a gospel minister." "That he has attempted to extort from the town two fifty-acre lots of land which he knew were never designed for him, and were no part of the contract the town made with him; and to accomplish his purposes respecting this land, he has not scrupled, in several instances, to deviate from the truth." The complaint then charges him with being intoxicated on several specified occasions; *viz.*, at an entertainment at the house of William Smith, Esq., about the 1st day of September, 1784, he became intoxicated with spirituous liquors; also the 1st day of February, 1785, at the marriage of Elizabeth Smith, he was intoxicated with liquor, and behaved very unbecomingly.

Several other instances are mentioned of his being intoxicated, and reference is made to the names of the witnesses to substantiate the charges. The complaint ends thus: —

Your complainant might have swelled the catalogue with Mr. Annan's faults as a minister, as a man, and a Christian to a greater bulk; but if he should be able to justify the Presbytery that those which have been enumerated are true, he is persuaded that they will think it needless to adduce any more proofs to show that this people, as well as your complainant, have just cause to complain; and that Mr. Annan's labors in Peterborough are without profit to the people, and that his conduct has been irregular, and unbecoming his station as a minister of the gospel and a member of your reverend Presbytery, and that you will proceed to inflict such censure on him as the nature of the offences merit, and as your wisdom shall direct.

We know nothing of the action of the Presbytery on this complaint. It is quoted here because it clearly expresses the grounds of dissatisfaction with Mr. Annan. It did not immediately prevail. It was not an easy thing to dispossess a minister in these early times; and the people bore with all these flagrant vices for four years longer, when he voluntarily withdrew. No manuscript sermons of Mr. Annan's are within our knowledge, so that we have no means of knowing the precise character of his preaching. We suppose that he generally preached extempore, especially as the complaint says that "he went into the pulpit often without any preparation, and thus served the Lord with what cost him nothing." There was a prejudice against written sermons in the early settlement, as indicated by a vote in town-meeting, April 3, 1764: "Voted, That the Rev. Mr. Morrow, lately come from Ireland, and is shortly to return, should be our commissioner, and be invested with full power and authority to send us a faithful minister of the gospel, a Calvinist of the Presbyterian constitution, a *preacher* of the word, and not a *reader*." ! !

Mr. Annan was a man of good attainments and of very respectable talents. *Vide Gen., under Annan.*

It appears that Watts' Hymns were introduced by a vote

of the town at a meeting, April 10, 1792. The following vote was passed: "Voted, That Dr. Watts' version of Psalms be used in the congregation of Peterborough for the future"; also, "Voted, To choose a committee to procure seats in the breast and front of the gallery, decent and comfortable, to accommodate a sufficient number of singers to carry on the singing in as good order as the circumstances of the congregation will admit of"; also, "Voted, That Robert Smith, John Moore, and Thomas Steele be said committee to buy or hire said seats or pews as they shall think best"; also, "Voted, That Jonathan Smith, John Gray, Oliver Felt, and Samuel Smith are to set the tune, and to invite such persons to assist them as they think proper."

The town continued without a pastorate until 1799, obtaining such supplies of preaching as offered, and giving a regular call to two different individuals. The first was to Rev. Abram Moore, a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1789. Sept. 25, 1795, a call was extended to him, and was signed by fifty-eight of the leading men in town, his salary voted, and Samuel Smith authorized to prepare a call, and present it to him or to the Presbytery to which he properly belongs. Nothing more is heard of this matter, whether he accepted or declined, or what broke off the expected engagement; and, with the exception of Mr. Elihu Thayer, no one in town ever heard that such a man existed. The following are the names of those who signed the call to Rev. Abram Moore, Sept. 21, 1795; *viz.*, Moses Cuningham, Samuel Mitchell, David Steele, Samuel Gregg, John Morison, Joseph Hammil, William Alld, William Mulliken, Benjamin Mitchell, John Todd, Peter Thayer, John Gray, Robert Smith, James Miller, Nathaniel Holmes, Robert Swan, Jonathan Smith, Samuel Alld, Samuel Moore, James Richey, Abner Haggett, John White, Richard Finch, John Waugh, Samuel McNay, David Hovey, David Steele, Jr., Samuel Wiley, Samuel Miller, David White, Robert Morison, Ezekiel Morison, William Howden, John Gregg, Randall McAlister, Christopher Thayer, William Moore, Matthew Templeton, Henry Crane, Robert Richey, Samuel Gordon, John Barry, William Nay, Abraham Holmes,

Henry Ferguson, Heman Evans, Samuel Smith, Nathaniel Moore, William Smith, John Steele, Bartholomew Thayer, Hugh Miller, Samuel Miller, Jr., William White, Richard Hovey, Elihu Penniman, Kelso Gray, Thomas Steele.

In 1797 Mr. Zephaniah Swift Moore appeared as a candidate, and it was voted at a meeting, June 27, 1797, that the town join the church in giving Mr. Zephaniah Swift Moore a call in the Congregational way. The call was postponed at this meeting; but at a later meeting, Oct. 30, 1797, it was voted to give Mr. Zephaniah Swift Moore a call, — eighty votes were given for the call and three against. Mr. Moore having declined to settle under the Presbyterian form, it was proposed to him to adopt the Congregational form, in a paper with the autograph signatures of some fifty or sixty members of the church and inhabitants of the town. This paper I have in my possession. We do not know just what the reasons were which induced Mr. Moore to decline the call unless he feared the discords which he may have found here, and that he would fail to harmonize the Congregational and Presbyterian forms to the acceptance of the people. He declines in a very fine letter, in which he expresses his high appreciation of the people, and the manner in which he had been treated, with his thanks and well wishes for their welfare. He was settled soon after at Leicester, Mass., and became an eminent man; he was the founder and the first president of Amherst College.

The next call was made to the Rev. Elijah Dunbar, Jr., June 5, 1799, to settle as a Congregationalist, when in a town meeting of the same date, sixty-one voted in favor of a call and twelve against it. His salary was fixed at four hundred dollars a year.

All the preliminaries to this event having been satisfactorily adjusted; *viz.*, the invitation of a large council, from no less than seventeen churches, ten of them in Massachusetts, and a special invitation to Rev. Joseph Willard, D. D., LL. D., President of Harvard College, who being unable to attend, his place was supplied by Prof. Webber, afterwards also President of the university; the making all necessary preparations

for the entertaining the multitude who might attend, for in those days, at the ordination of a pastor, all houses were open to the free and hearty entertainment of all who would come; also the propping up of the galleries of the meeting-house in expectation of a crowd, — the ordination took place Oct. 23, 1799.

The church in town had been Presbyterian probably from its organization (the records having been destroyed by fire), and had been early connected with the Londonderry Presbytery, until Mr. Annan's ordination, when, at his request, it was dismissed from the Londonderry and united with the New York Presbytery, which body becoming extinct, it again came under the jurisdiction of the Londonderry Presbytery. There being many in the congregation who were attached to the Presbyterian mode of worship, certain individuals petitioned the town to have services one day in the year in the Presbyterian form, when the following vote was passed by the town in 1804; *viz.*, "Voted, That the Petitioners have the privilege of the meeting-house one Lord's day in the year for the purpose of the administration of the Lord's Supper agreeable to the Presbyterian form of worship, which day the Petitioners may appoint, provided they notify Mr. Dunbar thereof one month previous to said day, and the members of Mr. Dunbar's church, in regular standing, may communicate with said Petitioners agreeable to the Presbyterian mode; and the expenses attending said performances to be defrayed by the town of Peterborough, provided the minister attending upon said ordinances lives within sixty miles of this place."

This arrangement, thus constituted, was continued until 1822, or until the separation of the Presbyterian from the old society and their formation into a new one. The Rev. William Morison, D. D., of Londonderry, was selected as the first preacher, and continued to officiate every year that the service was held, from 1805 to 1818, except the year 1817, when he was prevented from ill health. He died March 9, 1818, aged seventy. He was an excellent man, and his services here were always highly appreciated and fully attended.

The annual administration of the sacrament of the Supper in the Presbyterian form after 1804 to 1822: —

Oct. 20, 1805, Rev. William Morison, D. D., Londonderry.
Aug. 30, 1806, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
1807, no record of any meeting this year.
Sept. 25, 1808, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 4, 1809, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 16, 1810, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 22, 1811, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 20, 1812, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 12, 1813, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Sept. 11, 1814, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
1815, no record this year.
Sept. 22, 1816, Rev. William Morison, D. D.
Nov. 2, 1817, Rev. Mr. Taggart, of Colerain, Mass.
Sept. 6, 1818, Rev. Mr. Taggart.
Sept. 12, 1819, Rev. Mr. Taggart.
Sept. 10, 1820, Rev. E. P. Bradford, of New Boston.
Sept. 16, 1821, Rev. E. P. Bradford.

At a meeting of the church in Peterborough, Nov. 28, 1799, the following persons were chosen rulling elders; *viz.*, William Smith, William McNay, Robert Morison, Jonathan Smith, Nathaniel Holmes; and it was voted that the Lord's Supper be administered on the first Sabbath in the months of May, July, September, and November.

Mr. Dunbar's ministry continued twenty-seven years, until he was dismissed June 27, 1827. He kept a most accurate church record during his ministry, which in all cases has been found to be authority in all it contains. All the funerals he attended, with the names and ages of the individuals, were strictly recorded, as also all the marriages he solemnized, three hundred and seventy-three of which are recorded upon the town books. This record has been of great aid in determining many dates not otherwise attainable.

Mr. Dunbar's ministry was attended with many difficulties, but was no doubt as successful as most of those in the vicinity. He had a large family, and his domestic cares became so great that he was obliged to forego all improvement, and

merely meet his daily duties as he could. He did not keep up his theological studies, during a period of intense theological excitement in New England, neither possessing nor reading the new books or publications of his times. His preaching, though always above mediocrity, and always in pure Saxon English, was not so interesting as more culture would have infused into it. He was an excellent scholar to start with, and had great facility in composing, and also great powers of concentration, so that he wrote most of his discourses with all his family around him. It was not strange that in his sermons, and in his manner of delivery, he should fall behind the times, and that the people should desire a different kind of preaching, even before he had passed the maturity of his age.

So dangerous is it for a professional man, with any aspirations of true success in life, to intermit self-improvement and constant culture; he is surely sometime to feel the error of his course, and suffer in consequence. Mr. Dunbar's preaching, so fresh and new in the first part of his ministry, being so little enlivened by new recruits and aids in his reading, soon grew to be dull and monotonous.

The society, finding it impracticable to worship in the old meeting-house any longer on account of its uncomfortable location and dilapidated condition, determined to erect a new house, which was located in the village, and built during the year 1825, the same the society now occupies.

The church was dedicated Feb. 22, 1826. Rev. James Walker, D. D., preached the dedication sermon.

Mr. Dunbar preached in the new house till Feb. 25, 1827, when he preached from the Sixth and Tenth Commandments, to a very crowded audience, his last sermon as minister of Peterborough.

July 4, 1826, James Walker, John H. Steele, Timothy K. Ames, and others formed themselves into a society for the support of public worship, under the name of the "Congregational Society in Peterborough." The first meeting was called Jan. 27, 1827, at Samuel Smith's store, Gen. John Steele chosen moderator, James Walker clerk. May 19, 1827, letters of invitation were sent to Rev. Abiel Abbot,

D. D., to become their pastor. Mr. Abbot was installed June 27, 1827. He continued to supply the pulpit until 1839, when his health failed, and the Rev. Curtis Cutler was settled as a colleague, Jan. 29, 1840. He resigned April 30, 1848, and closed his ministry the last Sunday in May, in consequence of a bronchial affection, and soon after left the ministry for commercial pursuits. He died at Cambridge, Oct. 13, 1874, aged sixty-eight. Rev. Abiel Abbot resigned his pastoral relations with the society Sept. 9, 1848. He died at West Cambridge, Jan. 31, 1859, aged ninety-three. A call was extended to Liberty Billings, Sept. 10, 1848, and he, accepting the same, was ordained on the 27th of October, 1848. He resigned after a ministry of two years.

Rev. Charles Robinson was installed as pastor of said society Dec. 4, 1851, and closed his ministry July 1, 1859. He was born July 23, 1793, and died at Groton, Mass., April 9, 1862, aged sixty-eight years, eight months. Charles B. Ferry, a graduate of the Meadville Divinity School of 1859, having been invited to become pastor, was ordained June 13, 1860. After a very successful ministry Mr. Ferry resigned in August, 1869, his services ending Dec. 1, 1869. Isaac F. Porter, also a graduate of the Meadville School, was next invited to become pastor, by letter of Jan. 13, 1870, and was installed June 8, 1870. He resigned Aug. 1, 1872. Abraham W. Jackson, a graduate of the Divinity School at Cambridge, of the class of 1872, was ordained Jan. 2, 1873, and now continues in the pastoral relation.

An organ, built by E. & G. G. Hook was added to the church in 1867, at a cost of $2,600 for the organ, and $321 for fixtures for the same, — total, $2,921. The funds for the same were raised as follows: 1st, by a levee, Dec. 12, 1866, from which was realized $455; 2d, $1,040 received from former residents and members of the society, who had removed from town; 3d, $1,344.50 from a subscription of the members of the society and others in town favorable to the enterprise; 4th, from an organ concert in dedication of the organ, $60; and accrued interest on money received on deposit, $30, — total $2,929.50.

The semi-centennial of this church was observed Feb. 22, 1876. A sermon was preached on the occasion by Rev. M. J. Savage, of Boston, and an historical address read, prepared by Dr. Albert Smith, who was absent spending the winter in Newark, O. At an evening meeting addresses were made by Rev. C. B. Ferry and Rev. I. F. Porter, former pastors of the society, and by Rev. R. R. Shippen, secretary of the American Unitarian Association, and letters were read which had been received from former members of the society; *viz.*, Gov. P. C. Cheney, Abel Boynton, Henry F. Cogswell, Dr. E. M. Tubbs, N. H. Morison, William H. Smith, etc.

Presbyterian Society. — In 1822 a portion of the people, who had never been pleased with the Congregational form, and others who had never adopted the liberal views of Mr. Dunbar's society, withdrew, and formed a Presbyterian society. They maintained separate worship, at such places as could be procured, until 1825, when they built a house of worship of brick, at Gordon's Corner, which was completed and dedicated Oct. 4, 1825. The Rev. E. P. Bradford, of New Boston, preached the sermon. This house was used till 1839, when it was taken down, and its materials used towards a new house erected in the village, on Concord Street, in which the same society, under a different name, now worships. This house was dedicated Feb. 4, 1840. Soon after this house was dedicated, a call was extended to the Rev. Peter Holt, late of Epping, to become their pastor, and he was installed the succeeding March, 1826. He was a most excellent man and efficient preacher, but he had the misfortune that awaits us all who live to grow old; namely, less and less to interest the younger portion of the society, and his pastorate came to an end March, 1835. He continued to preach many years afterwards, in various places, and filled out a useful and beautiful life, with labor and effort to the last. He died at Greenfield. Rev. Nathaniel Pine was installed pastor June 8, 1836, and dismissed January, 1837, after a short pastorate.

The society was without a pastor from 1837 to 1840. Rev. Joshua Barrett was here until February, 1839. James

R. French was ordained March 18, 1840, and continued his ministry until 1847, when he was dismissed. Under his pastorate large additions were made to the church and society.

Rev. Henry J. Lamb was installed July 14, 1847, pastor of this society, and dismissed Dec. 31, 1852. During the year 1851, much dissatisfaction existing with the preaching of Mr. Lamb, a number of the members of the Presbyterian Church, by the decision of the Presbytery of Londonderry, were recommended to different churches in the vicinity. In 1853 the same persons, with others, were, by advice of council, organized into a Congregational Church, whose officers were Nathaniel H. Moore, Joel Fay, and Andrew A. Farnsworth. April 21, 1858, the Congregational and Presbyterian churches, by mutual consent, and advice of a reference committee for both parties, were organized into a church to be known by the name of the "Union Evangelical Church." The officers of this church, to the present time, have been Nathaniel H. Moore, George A. Jewett, Andrew A. Farnsworth, and James A. Collins.

Oct. 19, 1859, Rev. George Dustan, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1852, was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry, and installed as pastor of this church. The society and church have prospered under the wise and efficient labors of Mr. Dustan, who still continues their pastor. The church now numbers over two hundred members, with a large worshipping congregation. In the summer of 1866 the house was repaired and enlarged, at a cost of nearly $3,000. A donation of $350 was received from individuals in and out of town; the remainder was met by voluntary subscription, and a small tax on the pews. The first persons set apart to the office of elders were consecrated by the Rev. Robert Annan, of Boston, in 1778. They were William McNee, William Smith, Samuel Moore, and Samuel Mitchell. They adorned their profession, and died in the faith. Their successors, until 1826, were William McNee, Jr., Jonathan Smith, Peter Thayer, Robert Smith, Thomas Davison, Robert Morison, Christopher Thayer, Robert Thompson. Elders in 1826, Timothy Hunt, John Field, Jr. On the 21st of May the

following persons were elected elders; *viz.*, Peter Peavey, Stephen Holt, Timothy Fox, Solomon Holt; and May 22, 1830, Nathaniel Moore, John Todd, Jr.; and June 8, 1836, Henry Breed, Nathaniel H. Moore; and March 18, 1840, Samuel Maynard, Watson Washburn; and Feb. 17, 1850, John Vose, James B. Nichols, Joel Fay. The following persons were chosen deacons to the new society; *viz.*, Nathaniel H. Moore, A. A. Farnsworth, James H. Collins.

In the summer of 1873 this society erected a neat and commodious chapel, attached to the east of the church, at an expense of nearly $2,000. They were aided in the enterprise by the liberal gift of $275 from John Field, Esq., of Arlington, Mass., in addition to the numerous donations for various purposes heretofore made to said society.

METHODIST SOCIETY. — Introduction of Methodism into Peterborough, by Rev. Albert F. Baxter. Methodism was first introduced into Hillsborough County by Rev. Zenas Adams, who preached in Hancock for the first time in 1819. In the same year said Adams preached in Peterborough, and hence has the honor of first sowing the seed of Methodist doctrines here also.

In 1824 Brother Adams, in connection with Brother G. Campbell, visited this town, and formed a class consisting of six members; *viz.*, Adam and Phebe Penniman, John Shearer and Jean White, Elizabeth and Fanny Gregg. This class was the nucleus of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Peterborough, which may date its origin from October, 1824, and claim for its founders Zenas Adams and G. Campbell. Rev. Zenas Adams, who preached here in the fall of 1819, was the first Methodist preacher who entered Peterborough to represent the Methodist denomination.

A list of circuit preachers who occasionally preached in Peterborough: —

1826, Samuel Kelley, Matthew Newhall.
1827, James Smith, Joseph Allen.
1828, Joseph Allen, Calvin Walker, Goodyear Bassett.
1829, H. Cushman, S. P. Williams.

1830, H. Cushman, E. A. Rice.
1831, Nathaniel Ladd, E. Beede.
1832, S. Gleason, J. Scott, A. P. Brigham.
1833, S. Gleason, Henry Eliot.
1834, during this year Peterborough was made a station, and regular preaching was established.

The following are the preachers appointed here, and the time of their service: —

1834, '35, Joseph Allen.	1835, '37, Amos Kidder.
1837, '39, John Jones.	1839, '40, J. C. Cromack.
1840, '41, B. D. Brewster.	1841, '42, C. H. Chase.
1842, '44, James Adams.	1844, '45, Moses A. Howe.
1845, '46, Elijah Mason.	1846, '47, Franklin Furber.
1847, '49, Rufus Tilton.	1849, '51, John Hayes.
1851, '53, George S. Dearborn.	1853, '54, C. M. Dinsmore.
1854, '55, Kimball Hadley.	1855, '57, William H. Jones.
1857, '59, Linville J. Hall.	1859, '60, George S. Barnes.
1860, '62, R. E. Danforth.	1862, '64, S. L. Eastman.
1864, '65, Joseph Fawcett.	1865, '67, L. Draper.
1867, '68, Silas Quimby.	1868, '71, Frank P. Hamblet.
1871, '72, Samuel Beedle.	1872, '73, Samuel L. Beiler.
1873, Albert F. Baxter.	1876, I. H. Hillman.

The society had worshipped in school-houses and private dwellings, and for a few years occupied the town-house, up to 1839, and felt the need of a place of their own, where they could worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. This being centenary year, they made an effort to build a house of worship. Some wishing to make a centenary gift, appropriated it to purchase a site on which to build a meeting-house, as a monument of their love to the cause of God and their attachment to Methodism. They obtained a very pleasant situation, which cost them eight hundred dollars. They agreed to build, and let out the work to Brother Caleb Beede. He was to put the house on the underpinning, and finish it all off for $1,300. The house was finished and dedicated to the worship of God the 16th day of September, 1840. Brother J. G. Dow, the presiding

elder, preached the dedicatory sermon. The meeting-house and underpinning, fixtures, parsonage, and parsonage lot cost the society $2,429. During the year 1873 the church was repaired and refurnished, through the earnest efforts of Mr. B. F. Winn, and others.

Baptist Society. — The following history of the Baptist Church was furnished by Rev. W. O. Ayer, pastor of the same from 1871 to 1874: —

It is not known that ever a Baptist minister preached in Peterborough before the fall of 1822. At that time it became known that there were persons in town inclined towards the Baptist faith; and Elder John Cummings, of Sullivan, was sent to spend a Sabbath and to inquire after them. The result of his visit was the baptism, that same Sabbath, of two young ladies, and the formation of the Baptist Church, Dec. 19, 1822, with a constituent membership of fifteen.

Immediately upon the organization of the church, quite a number were received, both by baptism and by letters, from other Baptist churches. Jonathan Faxon (died April 13, 1849, aged eighty-three years) was the first deacon, and Moses Dodge (died 1850, aged eighty-one years) was the first clerk. The church was without settled pastors for some years, but continued to be supplied with preaching every other Sabbath by Elder Cummings, under whose efforts the church was gathered. They held their meetings on the Sabbath in the brick school-house on High Street (now a private residence). Peterborough was not, in all respects, as civilized then as it is today; and more than once the little band of worshippers suffered a "lock-out," and were subjected to other petty persecutions from those who dissented from their religious opinions. But the church has lived to reap the benefits that result from the general acknowledgment and reception of the great principle for which Roger Williams and the Baptist fathers contended; namely, the right of man to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, without molestation.

The first meeting-house was erected in 1822, on High

Street. It still stands, being now used as a tenement house. In this house the church held their meetings for twenty years, and they were obliged to enlarge it about 1834. This building was destroyed by fire Nov. 29, 1875. The first regular pastor of the church was Rev. Asa Niles. His stay was short (1825, '26), but during his pastorate the church increased in membership materially.

From 1826 to 1837 the church was much of the time pastorless, and the ministers who settled with them remained but a short time. Progress, under such circumstances, was of course slow. In 1837 Elder John Peacock came to labor with them for a few months, and his work was signally successful. At the close of his labors the church registered ninety-seven members.

In the spring of 1840 they settled Rev. Zebulon Jones. His coming proved a great blessing to the church, and his pastorate was the longest that had been enjoyed by them. Under his lead the church decided to abandon their meeting-house, and seek a more central location. The result was the purchase, Dec. 15, 1840, of a lot of land on Main Street, opposite the Unitarian meeting-house. On this site was erected the substantial brick edifice now occupied by the church. It was completed and dedicated in the summer of 1842. The same year twenty-three were added to the church by baptism.

After the departure of Rev. Z. Jones (1843) they were pastorless about one-half of the time until 1848, when Rev. J. M. Chick was settled, and remained more than four years.

From 1853 to 1866 the church passed through severe trials; was without pastoral oversight much of the time, and was very much reduced in membership.

During the pastorate of Rev. J. B. Breed (1866, '67) they were very much quickened, many joined their membership, and the meeting-house was very thoroughly and substantially repaired.

Two short terms of pastoral work and occasional supplies followed the departure of Rev. J. B. Breed until the church called and settled Rev. W. O. Ayer, September, 1871. He

remained with them until October, 1874, since which time they were regularly supplied with preaching till November, 1875, when the society settled Rev. C. F. Myers as their pastor.

The fiftieth anniversary of the church was observed December, 1872. Two constituent members were present; *viz.*, Mrs. Hannah Davis and Mrs. Betsey P. Hadley. The church is now in a flourishing condition, united, and in good working order. They maintain a Sunday-school, under the efficient superintendence of Charles Wilder, which now numbers one hundred and twenty. The membership of the church in September, 1874, was sixty-six. During the winter and spring of 1876 thirty new members have been added.

CATHOLIC CHURCH. — The Catholic church in Peterborough is beautifully situated on high ground, a short distance north of the village, commanding a full view of the valley of the Contoocook, for a considerable distance up and down the river.

It was commenced in 1869, and has been in process of erection to the final completion, in February, 1876, when the pews were put in. There are forty-eight pews on the main floor and eight in the gallery, each capable of seating four persons.

The style of the building is gothic, and is thirty-one feet wide by seventy-three feet long, and surmounted by a gilt cross. The interior is tastefully arranged. The windows are variegated stained glass, the walls frescoed, and trimmings imitation of black walnut. The gallery, with the exception of either side, is devoted to the use of the choir and organ. The altar is a very pretty one, in front of which and across the church extends a very heavy black walnut balustrade. The cost of the church is about $5,000.

The Catholics of Peterborough had been attended by pastors from Nashua and Keene until June, 1874, when Rev. P. Holahan took up his residence in town, as their first resident pastor, and was succeeded in 1876 by Rev. Mr. Buckle.

This church was dedicated May 14, 1876, by the usual services of the order on such occasions, Right Rev. James A. Healy, bishop of the diocese, officiating. It received the name of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

CHAPTER X.

EDUCATION.

Schools before Incorporation. — No Money Raised from 1760 to 1772. — The Sums Raised and Expended for this Purpose to 1790. — Five New School-houses Built in 1790. — Agents Appointed for Schools. — Long Struggle to Obtain a School-house in No. 1. — Description of the New School-houses and Mode of Warming. — Districts Defined and Numbered. — The Old School-houses Replaced in 1824 by Seven Brick School-houses. — Peterborough Academy. — High School.

We have no means of ascertaining whether there were any schools in town previous to the incorporation in 1760, but suppose there were, either private, or supported at the public expense, of which latter circumstance we have not been able to find any account in the Proprietary Records.

At the very first meeting of the town, under the act of incorporation, £40 were voted for schooling; but the next year we find no appropriation, but a vote that whatever of this sum remained unexpended should be paid to Samuel Stinson for work done on the meeting-house. There is not another appropriation for schools till 1772. No doubt the general instruction of the youth by private schools was kept up all through this period, by the contributions of the inhabitants. We suppose that more money has been expended privately for education in town, through its whole history, than has ever been appropriated by law for this purpose. We cannot believe that the town had no schools in all this period, — that the youth of that time just anterior to the Revolution were

entirely neglected, and had consequently grown up in ignorance. The events of the Revolution revealed a people sensible of their rights, and no less able to vindicate them by argument than by physical force. But no record has come down to us of any schools, and no individual is living who knows anything of that period. In 1772 the town raised £12 for schooling; in 1773, £15; 1774, £24; and the places of the schools were ordered by a committee; *viz.*, Capt. Alexander Robbe, William Moore, William McNee, Jr., Major Robert Wilson, Dea. Samuel Moore, James Cuningham, Capt. David Steele, Capt. William Alld, and Daniel Warren; in 1775, £12, divided by a committee; in 1779, £100; in 1780, £100; in 1781, £18, or paper money equal thereto; the selectmen were directed to divide the town into eight parts, and the school to be kept equally in each part. In 1784, £15; in 1786, £30; in 1787, £40, "to pay a grammar-school teacher, and Henry Ferguson being a committee to hire the master and to expend the money." In April, 1788, "Voted, To raise £25 in addition to the £40 that was assessed last year to pay the grammar school that was kept last winter, and furnish the town of Peterborough with a grammar school the present year, as the law directs." In 1789, £30. March 17, 1789, "Voted, The diocese should not send to any but their own, and that the said schools should be under the direction of the selectmen." In 1790 "it was voted to expend the school money of 1789, and that of this year (probably the same amount, though we see no other record of any sum being raised), in building school-houses." At the same meeting it was voted, "To divide the town into dioceses (as then called) to accommodate the town school"; also, "Voted that the selectmen be a committee to divide the town into dioceses, and make a report."

At a meeting of the town, Sept. 20, 1790, "Voted, To have but four dioceses." This vote was reconsidered at an adjourned meeting, and the number fixed at five. "Voted, That the selectmen be a committee to vendue the building the school-houses to the lowest bidder; also, that in case any dispute should come in either diocese, where the school-house

should be set, the selectmen to decide the dispute, and establish the places for said houses to stand." "Voted, To choose men to notify the dioceses to meet and to pitch upon places in the several dioceses to set school-houses." Chose Charles Stuart, John White, Jr., Moses Cuningham, James Miller, Committee. "Voted, That the selectmen vendue the building of the school-houses upon the 18th of October next, at the adjournment of this meeting." These five school-houses were designated as the south-west (south factory), south-east (near the house of Charles F. Bruce), the middle-east (near Caleb Wilder's), the north-east (near Widow James Parker's place), the north-west (near the Faxon or Charles Stuart place). We find no record of any money being raised for school purposes in 1791, yet we think it was raised. After this time, the raising money for schooling follows regularly every year according to law, the constitution of the State, now in force, having been established. The sums raised varied for some years, but were constantly increasing. In 1792, £70; in 1793, £80; in 1794, £70; in 1795, £70; in 1796, $300; and ever after this in the Federal currency. In 1797, $300; in 1798, $300; in 1799, $333.33; in 1800, $300; in 1801, $200; in 1802, $300; in 1803, $300; in 1804, $300; in 1805, $400; in 1806, $400; in 1807, $400; in 1808, $400; and ever after that what the law required according to valuation. An increased attention to the schools was manifested in 1803 by the appointment of Rev. E. Dunbar, John Smith, and James Wilson a committee to examine school-masters.

It appears that the town appointed agents for each district, from 1798 to 1822, who were to receive their share of the money, and inspect the schools, and probably to perform all the duties that now devolve upon the prudential committees. After this the several districts were organized according to law, and did their own business. These persons, chosen by the town for the several districts, were variously called on the town books, superintendents, inspectors, and agents of the schools. There were only six districts to 1822.

We suppose that those living in the centre district, or near what is now the centre village, had to avail themselves of the

schools nearest to them, and that their taxes were not permanently attached to either of the districts. This is implied in the following vote, March 31, 1795: "Voted, That Mr. Asa Evans' money be considered as part of the south-west division in said Peterborough."

In regard to an article in the warrant for a town-meeting, March 29, 1796: "To see if the town will vote (at their expense) to build a school-house near to Asa Evans', and disannex such as will be better accommodated at said school-house, from the south-west, and with west and middle-east school divisions, to be considered as members of said new division." The following vote was passed: "Voted, Not to build a school-house."

Nearly the same article was in the warrant for the meeting, Nov. 7, 1796. It was passed in the negative. We find another reference to this same subject in another article of the warrant of March 28, 1797: "To see if the town will build a school-house to accommodate a number of inhabitants round Samuel Smith's and Asa Evans', and what sum of money they will raise for the same." At the meeting it was passed in the negative.

Again this matter appears in an article of the warrant for the meeting, Aug. 27, 1798, as follows: "To see if the town will vote that Smith, Evans, and Osgood, and others shall have their proportion of the school money for the present year to pay a school they have had this summer, or any other school." The matter seems now to have assumed some magnitude, so that a large committee of twelve was chosen to consider the subject; "and they were equally divided respecting the building of a school-house, and thus ended."

At a meeting, March 5, 1799, the following committee were chosen to take into consideration the situation of the schools; *viz.*, James Wilson, Jonathan Smith, William White, Jr., Abner Haggett, and David Steele, Jr. They recommended that a sixth school-house be built; that John White, Jr., belong to the same, also William Scott, Mrs. Morrison, the Bailey farm, Kendall Osgood, Charles Davison, "and all who live within the premises before mentioned." Also, that the "school-house

be placed east of the great bridge, nigh the guide-post." The above report was accepted and recorded; and it was voted, "That the town give Samuel Smith and Asa Evans $150 to build said school-house,—$75 this year and $75 next."

At last the village or centre district were granted a school-house, with the pittance of $150 to build the same. But they were not satisfied with a common school-house merely, but must have in addition an academy. They erected a building two stories high, the upper room of which was intended as an academy, and the lower one for the district school. The academy room was pleasant and commodious, and the desks were arranged to seat two persons each; but the lower room was constructed in the usual style of the day. In that part of the room where the seats were built (and this description answers almost perfectly for all the six houses in town), the floor rose some three feet in an inclined plane; and both the seats and the desks were formed of one continuous plank, from one side of the room to the other, only leaving in the middle an alley some three feet wide. There was some kind of a fixture under the desk part for the books, slates, etc., but no backs to the seats. The very small scholars had a low seat in front, equally devoid of a back. All these houses were warmed by large, open fireplaces, the chimney being built on one side of the room, and taking a large space, leaving on one side of it an anteroom for entrance, and, in some cases, a small room on the opposite side, used as a dungeon for punishment. The school-rooms were open and cold, and it was fortunate if they had no broken glass in the windows for additional ventilators. There was generally no lack of fuel; but it was drawn to the school-houses from the woods green, and of sled length, requiring to be prepared for the fire by the older scholars. We should not be surprised that, from neglect to have the fire built early in severe weather, the business of the school should be retarded, the green logs requiring a long time to become sufficiently ignited to afford heat; and when the heat was attained, it was scorching on one side while the other was freezing. And so, under all those difficulties, these people gathered up their meagre share of education.

The new school-house, now the No. 1 in town, was built, no doubt, by a tax on the inhabitants in the diocese, with the exception of the town appropriation of $150, and the part appropriated for an academy by private contributions. We have no means of knowing anything more of the matter. The upper room was used as an academy for several years. We have heard of three teachers who were employed; *viz.*, Edmund Parker, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1803, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Judge of Probate, Hillsborough County; Reuben D. Musser, in 1804, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1803, who became a most distinguished man; and in 1805, '06, the school was kept by William F. Morison, son of Rev. William Morison, of Londonderry, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1806. After it ceased to be used for this purpose, it remained closed till the building was sold, and converted into a tenement house, and is the first building on Concord Street, on left-hand side from the bridge.

All these schools were in successful operation many years, and were of immense value to the town. Some of them were very large, numbering over ninety, and sometimes rising even to one hundred, scholars, especially the schools in the village and in the north-west districts.

In town-meeting, April 8, 1817, "Voted, That the selectmen number the school-houses." The lines defining the limits of the school-districts in town were presented for the first time by a committee, through their chairman, Samuel Smith, at the annual town-meeting, 1824, who also reported that the districts be numbered from one to nine; "that the school-houses be built hereafter by the districts, according to their taxes, and according to a just valuation of the same." By the report, the limits of District No. 7, North Factory, were defined.

The brick school-house in No. 1, now converted into a dwelling-house, was built near to Asa Evans' tavern-house, some years before the rest of the brick houses.

We have a distinct recollection of the old school-houses in 1824, all of them in a shabby, dilapidated condition, — shin-

gles worn out, and roofs leaky; clapboards off, affording additional ventilation; of a dark wood-color, innocent of any paint, even the famous Spanish brown so common in those early times.

This year, 1824, seven new brick school-houses were built, all of which but four, *viz.*, Nos. 2, 3, 7, and 8, are now displaced by wooden structures. The following vote was passed, April 8, 1828: "Voted, That each school-district choose their prudential committees." It appears that for some years after this date a portion of the literary fund was appropriated to the smaller school-districts, and another portion to purchase books for the town library.

In 1833, the school in District No. 1 becoming very large, agreeable to the custom then, the only relief was division; so a new district, No. 11, was established, and another brick school-house built, just north of the Congregational (Unitarian) Church.

In 1840 a new school-district, now known as No. 4, was established in the south-west part of the town, on the petition of Samuel Adams, Samuel Robbe, and others. No record of the proceedings of the town-meeting held Nov. 2, 1840, in which this petition was acted on, were ever made by the then town clerk, A. C. Blodgett.

In 1844 it was voted in town-meeting that Districts Nos. 1 and 11 be united under the name of No. 1.

During this year the united districts purchased land in the centre of the village, and erected a large school-house containing three commodious rooms, with a seat for each scholar, and divided the scholars into three classes, for the several rooms; and have conducted their school matters in a similar manner to the present time.

In 1845 John Barber, Samuel Carey, John W. Barber, and Elijah Washburn were set off into a district called No. 10. A district has since been set off in the west part of the town, near Barker's Mill, and a school-house built called No. 11.

During the past years great changes have taken place in the school-districts in town. Those most distant from the

village have dwindled in numbers, while those in the villages have greatly increased. The farms in many parts of the town, that were formerly very productive, and abounded in full houses, granaries, and barns, and generally large families, are now, by the deterioration of the soil, reduced to the lowest state of production, and begin to be abandoned for all purposes of tillage as fast as the buildings become untenantable. All the school-districts became more or less affected by these causes.

The policy of increasing the number of school-districts, and so further dividing the school money, has been erroneously pursued here as elsewhere, as the only remedy for those badly situated in regard to schools. The consequence has been a great expense to these individuals, of erecting new school-houses, and ultimately receiving but little instruction, and that of the most immature and inexperienced kind. Persons thus situated were obliged to send their children to neighboring districts when in session, or be at the additional expense of private schools, to derive the ordinary advantages of our common schools. There are now eleven districts in town. It will not be long before many of these must be abandoned for want of scholars, and the school money concentrated where it can be more usefully and economically expended. The experiment of small districts has been fully tried, and they have been found an insufficient remedy for the evils complained of.

Peterborough Academy.—An act for the incorporation of an academy was obtained from the New Hampshire legislature, Dec 28, 1836, to be called the "Peterborough Academy." A sufficient subscription having been obtained for the purpose, a neat brick school-house, 47 by 36, was erected in the village, in the summer of 1837, on a beautiful and convenient site, presented by Gen. James Wilson for this purpose. The whole amount expended was $1,453.63. This sum included $100 appropriated to the purchase of philosophical apparatus, to which $80 more, raised by subscription, were added.

The opening services were held Aug. 21, 1837, and the academy commenced with a large number of pupils, under the instruction of Nathan Ballard, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1837, who remained but one year. The school was kept in operation many years with varied success, being more or less prosperous, according to the popularity or address of the teachers, until by a regular decadence it was reduced to two terms in a year, and still later to only one. In 1871, the house being needed for a high school, just then for the first time established in town, it was rented April 12, 1871, and is now occupied for this purpose. The property is yet in the hands of the corporation of the academy, a regular organization having been maintained through all the decline of the school.

High School.—The high school was established by the following vote of the town, at the annual March meeting, 1871: On motion of Ezra Smith, "Voted, That we establish a high school in the town of Peterborough, and that all the school-districts in said town shall constitute said high-school district. The town shall annually choose a committee of three persons, who shall have the entire charge of said high-school district and school. There shall be a fall, winter, and spring term of school in said district each year. All persons offering themselves for admission to said school shall be examined by said committee, and if found to possess the qualifications required by the committee for admission, may be admitted to said school. The tuition shall be free to all those admitted, who are resident of said high-school district; and all others shall pay such a reasonable tuition as the committee shall require." $1,200 of the school money was appropriated for this purpose the first year. The school went into operation in August, 1871, under the instruction of Thomas P. Maryatt, graduate of Dartmouth College, 1871, with about fifty scholars. The same teacher continued with great success for four years. He was succeeded, 1875, by L. C. Cornish, A. B., graduate of Waterville College, Me. The school has thus far proved of great advantage to the young people of

Peterborough, and has been carefully improved by those who have been qualified to enter it.

The success of the high school has been greatly aided by a munificent donation of philosophical apparatus by Nathaniel H. Morison, LL. D., of Baltimore, Md. When he retired from his private school in Baltimore, over which he had presided more than a quarter of a century, to accept the position of Provost of the Peabody Institute, he presented all his philosophical apparatus, after having had the same put in perfect repair, which had cost him over $2,000, as a gift to the high school of his native town.

CHAPTER XI.

LIBRARIES AND TOWN LIBRARY.

Social Library, 1811. — Another Started by Dr. Abbot. — Union and Phœnix Libraries. — Peterborough Ministerial Library. — Town Library Established in 1833. — Edwards' Definition of a Town Library. — Correspondence with Commissioner of Education. — The Claims of Salisbury, Ct., and Castine, Me., Considered. — First Proceedings of Town in Relation to its Library. — First Appropriation. — First Library Committee. — Appropriations made since 1833. — Various Aids and Donations. — A Fund of $1000 Raised by Rev. A. M. Pendleton. — Names of Donors of Money and Books. — Number of Books, March 1, 1876.

We cannot learn of any library previous to the establishment of the "Peterborough Social Library" in 1811. This consisted of one hundred volumes of exceedingly well-selected books, every one of which could be read with profit. The library was extensively used till 1830, when it was sold, having been for some time much neglected, and considered as old and out of date.

Another library was gotten up about this time by the Rev. Abiel Abbot, D. D., which was very much used for many years; but the conditions of membership requiring an annual payment of fifty cents, which not being paid in a certain time the share became forfeited, all the proprietors but two or three suffered the shares to be forfeited, and these proprietors made it over to the Ministerial Library, where it is now in safe keeping.

The Union and Phœnix Cotton Factories had each a small,

well-selected library for their operatives, which was much read and very useful. The Phœnix Library, consisting of two hundred and one volumes, was presented to the Town Library in 1860.

The Peterborough Ministerial Library, connected with the Congregational Society (Unitarian), and principally for the use of their minister, was founded by the sole efforts of Rev. Abiel Abbot, who commenced it with a large donation of books from his own library, and labored assiduously in its behalf for several years. An act of incorporation was obtained for the same in 1838. It now numbers from twelve to fifteen hundred volumes.

Town Library. — The Peterborough Town Library was established in 1833, and was, without doubt, the first free public library in the United States. Thanks to such men as Abiel Abbot, John H. Steele, James Walker, Timothy K. Ames, James Howe, William Scott, Henry F. Cogswell, and many others, for this inestimable boon to this generation. It was a step in advance of the times, — they builded better than they knew. No town or place in all our country had conceived the plan of furnishing free reading to the community at their sole expense, till some time after our project was in full and successful operation.

The Peterborough Town Library claims, First, That it was founded by the town with the deliberate purpose of creating a free, general library, and has always been owned by it. Second, It has been managed by the town, and every year since its foundation the town has appropriated money for its support, has chosen a library committee to take care of the same, and has expended the yearly appropriation in books. Third, It is free to all citizens of the town, has books for all classes, and is, and always has been, in the widest sense, a free public town library.

Edwards, in his *Memoirs of Libraries*, an elaborate work, in two large volumes, octavo, page 214, says: "By town library, I mean a library which is the *property* of the town itself and enjoyable by all the townspeople. Such a library

must be both freely, and of right, accessible and securely permanent. It must unite direct responsibility of management with assured means of support. No such library existed in the United States until that of Boston was founded in 1848. Nor did any such library exist in the United Kingdom until after the passing of the 'Libraries Act,' in 1850."

In a correspondence with the Commissioner of the Bureau of Education, at Washington, D. C., he says, in a letter of Aug. 7, 1875: "The first free public library supported or aided by taxation, of which this bureau has any account, was established at Wayland, Mass., and was opened to the public in August, 1850; the second, at New Bedford, Mass., was opened in March, 1853. If the Peterborough Town Library was free to the inhabitants of the town prior to August, 1850, whether supported by municipal taxation or by the income of invested bonds, it furnishes the first example of a free library, and we shall be glad to give it the credit." In another letter of Aug. 12, 1875: "So far as any data are at present known to us, your library is the earliest of its kind. Should we obtain information of an earlier enterprise of the same kind, you will be duly informed."

The Department of Education, having obtained additional and important information on this subject, addressed us the following letter, of Jan. 11, 1876: "It appears that a youth's free library was established in Salisbury, Conn., in 1803, and that for many years it was supported, and additions of books made, by means of a tax; thus making it the first free library supported by taxation of which we have any account." In the beginning of 1803, Caleb Bingham, of Boston (of *Columbian Orator* memory, etc.), a native of Salisbury, presented to the town a juvenile library, and himself appointed a board of trustees to manage it, these trustees having power to fill vacancies. It was called the "Bingham Library for Youth." We are not informed whether it was received by a formal vote of the town or not. At all events, the town never assumed the ownership or care of the library, or by its contributions had anything to do with its being a free library. We know not how often, or how much, the town contributed

to the library, — it was simply aided in its prosperous days, and in the end permitted to run down. Judge Samuel Church, in an address on the one hundredth anniversary of the first town-meeting, held in Salisbury, Oct. 20, 1841, in speaking of this library, says: "The books were sought after and read with avidity; the town, from time to time, by grants from its treasury, has contributed to its enlargement, and generous individuals, too, have made valuable additions." The town clerk of Salisbury, Daniel Pratt, Esq., informs me that this library has ceased to be used for the last thirty years or more; probably the books were worn out, or dilapidated so as to be unfit for use, and never renewed. In no sense can this be considered a town library. It was simply a free library, to which the town afforded an occasional aid in its prosperous days.

One other case is found, nearer to the point of becoming a free library under municipal authority. In the year 1700, Rev. John Sharp bequeathed his library to New York City for a municipal institution. Thirty years after, a second bequest came to it from an English clergyman, Dr. Wellington. But it fell into neglect, and it does not appear, so far as we can learn, that it received any support from the city. In 1754 a number of influential citizens added seven hundred volumes, and greatly improved its regulations. But the idea of a library owned and supported by the city, for the free use of its citizens, seems to have been entertained by almost no one save its founder. In 1772 it was avowedly converted into a proprietary library. In that year it was formally incorporated as the Society Library of New York. It now prospers greatly as a proprietary library.

The school district libraries in New York, supported by taxation, and owned by the several districts, come the nearest to our town libraries of anything else known. But these were not established till 1835, and were only for the school district to which they belonged, — in no sense town libraries.

We were informed still later (June 10, 1876), by the Commissioner of Education, that the Castine, Me., free public library antedates ours. By a letter from P. J. Hooke, librarian

of the same, we learn that this library went into effect March 5, 1855, by a vote of the town, twenty-two years after the beginning of the Peterborough library.

Thus giving all due credit for previous attempts to establish free public libraries, we think the claim of Peterborough to be the first to have succeeded in it is indisputable. Any library in this country, founded and owned by a town, supported by municipal taxation, maintained from its origin till now, and open to the free use of all its citizens, anterior to our own, is entirely unknown to us. We confidently claim the honor of being the pioneers in this enterprise, that our library is the first public free library supported at public expense in the United States.*

There has been more difficulty in ascertaining the history of the town library than we had anticipated. It being a matter of comparatively recent origin, it was thought that many persons living would remember about it, and be able to furnish all the requisite information; but it so happened that those most prominent in the matter were at, or past, the middle age of life, and are all now deceased, with the exception of Henry F. Cogswell, now residing in Buffalo, N. Y. The town records have been carefully examined, but they furnish poor and scanty materials for history; they faithfully record votes, and the results of various transactions, but of those who made the motions, or advocated the measures, they are entirely reticent.

The following are the first proceedings of the town in relation to the library, at a meeting held April 9, 1833:—

"On motion, Voted, That out of the money to be raised the present year from the State Treasurer on account of the literary fund of the town, as to make the principal thereof amount to seven hundred and fifty dollars, to remain a permanent fund."

"Voted, that the remainder to be raised from the State Treasury, together with the interest of said fund, be appropriated the present year."

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*In a letter of July 22, 1876, from John Eaton, LL.D., Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C., he says: "So far, then, as the Bureau is at present advised, Peterborough may rightly claim the honor of having established the first free town library in the United States."

"On motion, Voted, That the portion of the literary fund and the interest thereof be appropriated this year; be divided among the small school-districts, and applied to the purchase of books for *a town library*." *

We have reason to believe that this important town measure owed its origin in a great degree to the late Rev. Abiel Abbot, D. D., together with the earnest and hearty coöperation of Gov. John H. Steele, James Walker, Henry F. Cogswell, Wm. Scott, T. K. Ames, James Howe, and many others. The library has always been regarded with favor by the people, and has received more persistent support than almost any other voluntary institution in town.

In 1834 John H. Steele, Abiel Abbot, and Timothy Fox were chosen directors of the town library, which committee probably purchased the first books. The library started off this year with an appropriation, made in 1833, of $66.88; for the next two years, 1834, '35, $70, each, was appropriated. In 1836, $96.37 was appropriated, and in 1837, $75; 1838, $75; 1839, $89, and an addition, also, of $50; 1840, $70; 1841, $90; 1842, $50, and additional, also, $80; and then $45 for each year to 1865, except the year 1862, when no appropriation was made. In 1865, $60 was appropriated; 1866, $75; 1867, $95; 1868, $75; 1869, $75; 1870, $150; 1871, $75; 1872, $75; 1873, $75; 1874, $75: 1875, $75. In 1835 the first appropriation, of $42.09, was made to William T. Smith for taking care of the library, and subsequently a certain sum, from $30 to $50, was paid annually to different persons, till the removal of the library, in 1874, to the south basement of Town Hall, and its great enlargement, when the salary of the librarian was increased to one hundred dollars a year. The money above appropriated was derived from the literary

* The wording of these votes seems very obscure. The fact intended to be conveyed was, no doubt, this: —

1st, That of the money heretofore received by the town on account of the literary fund, with enough of this year's receipts to make $750, be formed into, and remain, a permanent fund, as it is at the present time.

2d, That what remains, after completing this fund, be appropriated, with the interest on said fund, the present year.

3d, Is a repetition of the last vote with the following, to be divided among the small school-districts, and applied to the purchase of books for a town library.

und, so-called, a state tax on banks, and distributed to the various towns, to be used for literary purposes.

The following are the various aids and donations in money, which have been extended to the town library, with the names of the individual donors. In 1868 one hundred dollars was subscribed, the following persons giving five dollars each, *viz.*, M. L. Morrison, Jonas Livingston, C. H. Brooks, H. A. Marsh, John Gates, A. J. Aldrich, Joseph Noone, C. B. Ferry, A. M. Pendleton, S. N. Porter, Marshall Nay, George T. Wheeler, S. I. Vose, John R. Miller, E. M. Tubbs, R. B. Hatch, O. Felt, A. P. Morrison; those giving two dollars each were Dr. Albert Smith, E. B. Dodge; and those giving one dollar each were William Lowe, E. R. Farnsworth, John Scott, John Wilder, Dr. J. F. Cutler, and P. McLaughlin. The above subscription was gotten up and collected by Rev. A. M. Pendleton.

In 1869 a levee was gotten up by Rev. A. M. Pendleton and Miss Catharine Smith for the purpose of procuring additional funds for the town library, and a committee, consisting of John R. Miller, Charles Scott, and Charles Wilder, were appointed to invite former residents and natives of the town to attend and partake of the festivities of the same. An agreeable response of $290.50 was generously made by the following persons, while $144.24 was realized from the levee, making a total of $434.74: —

John Field, Arlington, Mass., $100; Wm. H. Smith, Alton, Ill., $50; Samuel May, Boston, $20; N. H. Morison, Baltimore, Md., $20; Mrs. S. W. Hogan, Woburn, Mass., $10; J. H. Morison, D. D., $10; Nathaniel Holmes, Cambridge, Mass., $10; K. C. Scott, Keene, $10; Geo. E. Forbush, Providence, R. I., $10; Perkins Bass, Chicago, Ill., $10; Mrs. Helen J. McCaine, St. Paul, Minn., $5; Albert B. Hannaford, Norwalk, O., $5; William M. Smith, Lowell, Mass., $5; Albert Field, So. Market, $5; George Howe, Lynn, Mass., $5; a Friend in Lynn, Mass., $5; Charles M. Townsend, Springfield, Vt., $3; Jona. Felt, Jr., Newton Lower Falls, Mass., $2; Mrs. Sarah E. Cheney, Chicago, Ill., $2; Laurence Daly, Perkinsville, Vt., $1.50; Elias Boynton, New

Lisbon, Wis., $1; Betsey J. Follansbee, Canaan, $1. The same year, the committee acknowledge the receipt of $11 from a ladies' calico ball. A few other donations were also made; in 1862, $20 by Mrs. Mortier L. Morrison, and $3.25 by a person unknown. In 1869, by a vote of the town, $108 was appropriated to the library, realized from the sale of the New Hampshire reports.

We have yet to mention the most remarkable aid to the library. Through the individual and unaided efforts of the Rev. A. M. Pendleton, a fund of $1000 was subscribed in 1873, '74, of which sum, $914.50, with $3, by Wallace Clark, of the same subscription, in 1875, was paid, and has been expended in books.

Towards this fund the following persons contributed $25 each: *viz.*, A. M. Pendleton, R. B. Hatch, Charles Scott, John R. Miller, I. F. Porter, A. S. Scott, S. I. Vose, James Scott, James S. Gray, David Barker, James Hannaford, T. S. Stewart, E. W. McIntosh, Jonas Livingston, Joshua Briggs, Joseph Noone's sons; $15 for the same, Charles H. Brooks; $10, Anna C. Payson, John Q. Adams, Levi Cross, John Gates, Sylvester Tenney, Samuel Adams, Jr., John Scott, M. L. Morrison, Joseph Farnum, George W. Farrar, James R. Miller, W. G. Livingston, Albert Smith, Albert Frost, Stephen Felt, B. S. Winn; $5 each, W. D. Chase, Sampson Washburn, W. G. Hale, George H. Longley, S. N. Porter, W. E. Davis, John Wilder, Abel Wilder, Asa Twitchell, D. W. Gould, Lorenzo Holt, J. M. Collins, W. F. Pratt, Smith Brothers, L. O. Forbush, W. S. Keyes, John Smith, Albert M. Smith, T. D. Winch, J. M. Macomber, C. W. Holt, Charles W. Barber, A. A. Sawyer, E. A. Fletcher, G. A. Hamilton, John Cragin, William F. White, Sargeant Bohonan, H. K. French, G. F. Day, George H. Scripture, Franklin Mears, William Moore, L. P. Wilson, Elbridge Howe, E. M. Felt, S. P. Longley, George Dustan, Charles H. Longley, Augustus Fuller; $3 each, N. C. Forbush, G. W. Towle, J. T. Regan, H. H. Templeton, M. M. Heath, A. A. Ames, J. H. Collins, Charles Jaquith, Jasper Elliot, C. P. Follansbee, C. L. Dodge, J. N. Dodge, W. H. Longley, Milton Carter, Franklin Field, G. W.

Wilson, G. B. Priest, S. A. Sawyer, N. H. Moore, C. P. Richardson, G. F. Livingston, J. M. Mears, Ebenezer Fairbanks, Harvey Hadley, G. W. Marden, E. B. Dodge; $2.50, C. Haywood; $2 each, A. T. Hovey, C. C. Clark, E. A. Towns, Ellen Forbush, A. C. Frost, W. E. Clark, F. J. Ames, S. H. Hardy, H. F. Preston, J. N. Thayer; $1 each, G. W. Conant, F. J. Shedd, Hiram McCoy, J. L. Carter, J. Stone, Sallie A. Crombie, David Clark, Samuel Weston, W. C. B. Spofford, E. N. Fish, C. L. Richardson.

In addition to these money donations, books have from time to time been presented. The first important addition made was that of the Phœnix Factory Library, in 1860, of two hundred and one volumes of well-selected and valuable books, presented to the town by the directors of the same; forty-two volumes from Hon. Mason W. Tappan, and five volumes public documents; in 1861, five volumes by individuals, names of donors not mentioned; in 1862, five volumes by Hon. E. H. Rollins; in 1863, six volumes by Hon. E. H. Rollins; in 1864, eight volumes presented by the librarian, John R. Miller, three volumes by Hon. E. H. Rollins, one volume each by Miss Anna C. Payson, and George Livermore, Esq., Cambridge, Mass.; in 1865, eighteen volumes by Hon. E. H. Rollins, four volumes by Hon. Daniel Clark, one volume by Nathaniel H. Morison, Esq.; in 1866, thirty-three volumes by the American Unitarian Association, twenty-one volumes by Messrs. Clark and Rollins, one volume by John H. Morison, D. D., one volume from the funds of the Young Men's Debating Club, and two volumes by an unknown friend; in 1867, one volume by Judge Nathaniel Holmes, — a copy of his work on the "Authorship of Shakespeare"; in 1868, thirty volumes by Miss Anna C. Payson, four volumes by Mrs. E. J. Hale; in 1869, thirty volumes of public documents by Hon. A. F. Stevens, three volumes by Senator Cragin, nine volumes of State Reports, seven volumes by the American Tract Society, one volume by J. A. Bullard, one volume by Asa Twitchell, one volume by Miss L. S. Fisk, five volumes by Miss Anna C. Payson; in 1871, three volumes by Mrs. Cochran, one volume by J. L. Emmons, ten

volumes by Horace Morison, fifteen volumes by the American Unitarian Association; in 1872, three volumes by S. N. Haskell; in 1873, eight volumes by Hon. A. C. Cragin.

The greatest benefactor to the town library has been the Rev. A. M. Pendleton. He served gratuitously eight years on the library committee, and labored in season and out of season for its welfare. It is to him, more than any other person, that we are indebted for the judicious selection of the books, the largest portion of which was bought while he was a member of the board; for the careful supervision and management of the library; the securing a convenient place for the same; for the raising, by subscription, such large sums of money for its advancement, and a still-continued interest in its behalf. He merits the lasting gratitude of the town, and of all those who are enjoying the fruits of his labor, in the excellent books he did so much to provide for them.

The library commenced with a very few books, and was gradually increased by the annual appropriations of the town, and the various donations in money and books which were made to it from time to time, the town in the meanwhile paying the expenses of furnishing a room and the taking care of it. The committees hitherto in charge of it have been very faithful in the discharge of their duties; and one is surprised to learn how few books have been lost during the forty years of its existence. In 1864 every volume was accounted for, and in 1865 only one volume was lost, and in other years but two or three volumes each year. Vastly more books were absolutely worn out than were lost. The committees often complain of the ill usage the books receive, and yet acknowledge, in almost every report, the very general use of the library by all classes. A considerable number of books are thrown aside every year as worn out, and unfit for further use; and those badly dilapidated have to be repaired, new covered, and new labelled, bringing a good deal of labor and care upon a committee whose services have hitherto been gratuitously rendered.

The library at the present date (by the report of the com-

mittee for 1876) contains three thousand seven hundred and thirty-two volumes. The books have all been very carefully selected, and are well suited to the wants of the people. The design has been to furnish useful and instructive reading, rather than that of a light or amusing character; and works of fiction, except those of the most acknowledged merit, have found little place among the books.

The library is rich in history, biography, travels, and ethics, furnishing to the public some of the best books in our language. Those who desire the lighter reading are obliged to seek it elsewhere. The library furnishes useful nutriment to all classes who read to become intelligent. It has become a great success, and is freely used by all, and has proved of inestimable value to the people.

The great desiderata for the future prosperity of the library are, First, that some public-spirited person, a descendant of the town or otherwise, should endow it with a fund that should yield it a larger annual income than it has ever yet had. Second, that some one should erect a building with all the accessories of a well-approved library, solely for its use. The annual income of the library has hitherto been small; and, in the action of the town, it has incurred the fate of other measures, that of always being fixed at the lowest minimum. But for the liberality of the inhabitants, and friends of the town abroad, the library, only increased and supported by the annual appropriation to this object, would now make a very insignificant appearance. Thanks to these donors, who have contributed so liberally to this purpose! they have accomplished a good that will long be remembered. It has now existed over forty years, and is more flourishing than ever. We trust that the town, on whom it must rely for its continuance and support, will ever keep up its interest in the library, and never suffer it to languish from want of support, or from the indifference of the people.

CHAPTER XII.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY.

College Graduates. — Lawyers. — Those Educated as Lawyers, and Settled Elsewhere. — Clergymen. — Physicians. — Those who became Physicians, and Settled Elsewhere.

List of College Graduates from the Town of Peterborough.

JEREMIAH SMITH graduated at Rutgers College, N. J., in 1781, and received the honorary degree of LL. D. from Dartmouth College in 1804, and the same from Harvard University in 1807; Chief-Justice of Superior Court and Governor of New Hampshire in 1809; also Judge of United States Circuit Court, an eminent and distinguished lawyer. He died at Dover, Sept. 21, 1842, aged 82 years.

JAMES WILSON, son of Major Robert Wilson, graduated at Harvard College in 1789. Was educated a lawyer, and practised his profession in Peterborough till 1815, when he removed to Keene, where he died, Jan. 4, 1839, aged 73 years. He was a talented and successful lawyer. He was chosen Representative to Congress 1809–11.

WALTER LITTLE, son of Thomas Little (name changed to Fullerton), graduated at Dartmouth College in 1796. Was settled as minister in Antrim, before the Rev. Dr. Whiton. He remained but a few years, went to Maryland, and died in 1815.

JOHN WILSON, son of Major Robert Wilson, graduated at Harvard College in 1799; was a lawyer of some eminence; settled in Belfast, Me.; a Representative to Congress in 1813–15; died in 1848, aged 76 years.

STEPHEN MITCHELL, son of Benjamin Mitchell, graduated at Williams College in 1801; studied law, and practised his profession in Durham; died February, 1833, aged 53 years.

REUBEN D. MUSSEY, son of Dr. John Mussey, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1803; M. D. and LL. D.; professor at Dartmouth Medical College many years; also Professor of Surgery in the Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, O.; author of various books; died in Boston, June 21, 1866, aged 86 years.

JOHN STUART, son of Charles Stuart, graduated at Williams College in 1804; a lawyer; died 1848, aged 65 years.

WILLIAM RITCHIE, son of James Ritchie, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1804; studied divinity, and was settled first at Canton, but removed to Needham, where he preached many years; died Feb. 22, 1842, aged 60 years.

STEPHEN P. STEELE, son of Gen. David Steele, graduated at Williams College in 1808. He studied law, and practised his profession in Peterborough; died July 22, 1857, aged 73 years.

CHARLES JESSE STUART, son of Charles Stuart, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1809; was a lawyer in Lancaster, where he died, May 17, 1836, aged 47 years, 7 months.

JAMES PORTER, Jr., son of James Porter, graduated at Williams College in 1810. He studied divinity, and was settled as minister in Pomfret, Conn., where he continued twenty-five years. He died June, 1856, aged 71 years.

DAVID STEELE, son of Gen. David Steele, a graduate of Williams College in 1810. He studied law, and practised his profession at Hillsborough Bridge; died Dec. 10, 1866, aged 79 years.

JONATHAN STEELE, son of Thomas Steele, graduated at Williams College in 1811. He studied law, and practised his profession at Epsom. He died September, 1858, aged 66 years.

ISAAC P. OSGOOD, son of Dr. Kendall Osgood, graduated at Harvard College in 1814; studied law, and settled in Boston; died in 1867, aged 74 years.

JESSE SMITH, son of Robert Smith, graduated at Dart-

mouth College in 1814. He studied the medical profession; lectured at Dartmouth Medical School, the sessions of 1820; and was appointed Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati, O., which office he held till his death. He died of cholera, in 1833, at Cincinnati, aged 40 years.

David Steele, son of Gen. John Steele, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1815. He was an attorney at law, with considerable distinction, at Goffstown, and died there, Oct. 1, 1875, aged 80 years.

Joseph Brackett, son of Samuel Brackett, graduated at Williams College in 1815. He was ordained at Rushville, N. Y., where he died, Sept. 24, 1832, aged 41 years.

Charles White, son of John White, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1816. He went out to Mississippi to teach, and died at sea on his return passage, Aug. 10, 1817, aged 22 years.

Amasa Edes, son of Samuel Edes, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1817. An attorney at law at Newport.

Jonathan Smith, Jr., son of Jonathan Smith, graduated at Harvard College in 1819; studied law with the late Gov. Levi Lincoln, Worcester, Mass.; settled at Bath, where he died, Aug. 10, 1840, aged 42 years.

James Wilson, Jr., son of James Wilson, a graduate of Middlebury College in 1820; an attorney at law at Keene, and for many years in San Francisco, Cal.; a member of Congress from New Hampshire, 1847–51.

Albert Smith, son of Samuel Smith, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1825; received from the same the degree of M. D. in 1833 and LL. D. in 1870; Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the Dartmouth Medical School, from 1849 to 1870.

John Hopkins Morison, son of Nathaniel Morison, graduated at Harvard College in 1831; studied divinity, and was first ordained at New Bedford, and afterwards at Milton, Mass., where he now resides; received the degree of D. D. from Harvard College in 1858.

Josiah Ballard graduated at Yale College in 1833; studied divinity; ordained ——; died in 1863.

ARTEMAS LAWRENCE HOLMES, son of Nathaniel Holmes, Jr., graduated at Dartmouth College in 1835. He studied law, and for a time practised his profession in Peterborough; afterwards resided in New York, where he died in 1871, aged 57 years.

SOLOMON LAWS, son of Thomas Laws, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1836. He is a minister of the Universalist denomination; has removed to Ohio.

HORACE MORISON, son of Nathaniel Morison, graduated at Harvard College in 1837; spent most of his life in teaching in Baltimore; was, from 1840 to 1854, Professor of Mathematics in the University of Maryland; returned to Peterborough in ill health, a short time before his death; died Aug. 5, 1870, aged 60 years.

NATHANIEL HOLMES, son of Samuel Holmes, graduated at Harvard College in 1837; educated as a lawyer, and settled in St. Louis, where he became a Judge of the Superior Court of Missouri, afterwards Royal Professor of Law in Harvard Law School from 1868 to 1872. He now resides in St. Louis.

NATHANIEL H. MORISON, son of Nathaniel Morison, graduated at Harvard College in 1839. He prepared himself for the ministry, but devoted himself to teaching in Baltimore, Md.; appointed Provost of the Peabody Institute in that city in 1867; LL. D., St. John College, Annapolis, Md., 1870.

BARNARD BEMIS WHITTEMORE, son of Barnard Whittemore, graduated at Harvard College in 1839; was educated as a lawyer, but has devoted himself to journalism; editor of the New Hampshire *Gazette*.

DAVID YOUNGMAN, Jr., son of David Youngman, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1839; studied medicine, and practises in Boston.

OREN B. CHENEY, son of Moses Cheney, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1839. He was settled at Lebanon and Augusta, Me., six years at the former place, and five at the latter. He then devoted himself to the founding of a free Baptist school in 1854, at Lewiston, which eventuated in the establishment of Bates College, of which he has been president

from the beginning. The honorary degree of D. D. was conferred on him by the Wesleyan University in 1863.

JOSEPH ADDISON WHITE, son of Robert White, graduated at Harvard College in 1840. He devoted himself to teaching, and died early, Jan. 20, 1843, aged 25 years, 7 months.

JAMES SMITH, son of William Smith, graduated at Yale College in 1840; an attorney at law in New Orleans, with flattering prospects, when he was cut off by consumption, and died at Peterborough, Jan. 1, 1847, aged 31 years.

GEORGE WALKER, son of James Walker, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1842; studied law, and was many years in Springfield, Mass., in the practice of his profession. He now resides in New York City, and devotes his time to various financial matters.

LUKE MILLER, son of Andrew Miller, graduated at Norwich University in 1841; studied medicine, and removed to Lanesborough, Minn., where he now practises his profession.

JAMES MORISON, son of Nathaniel Morison, graduated at Harvard College in 1844; was educated a physician; settled in San Francisco, Cal.; Professor of Theory and Practice in the Pacific University; now resides in Quincy, Mass.

JOHN G. PARKER, son of James Parker, graduated at Norwich University in 1847; M. D., Dartmouth, 1852. He studied medicine, practised at Dublin and Warner, and died at the latter place, Sept. 12, 1869, aged 51 years.

CHARLES GILMAN CHENEY, son of Moses Cheney, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1848; studied law; practised at Peterborough; cashier of the first bank established in town. He died at Hillsborough Bridge, Nov. 13, 1862, aged 36 years, 4 months.

SAMUEL ABBOT SMITH, son of Samuel G. Smith, graduated at Harvard College in 1849; studied divinity, and was ordained at West Cambridge (now Arlington), June 27, 1854, where he died, May 20, 1865, aged 36 years.

GEORGE WASHINGTON COGSWELL, son of Henry F. Cogswell, graduated at Harvard College in 1849. He died at LeRoy, N. Y., April 22, 1854, aged 23 years, 9 months.

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS SMITH, son of Albert Smith, gradu-

ated at Dartmouth College in 1852; also M. D. in 1855; commenced his practice in Leominster, where he died, Dec. 20, 1856, aged 26 years.

GEORGE ADDISON HUNT, son of Norton Hunt, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1852; an attorney at law, with considerable distinction, at Quincy, Ill., where he died, March 24, 1867, aged 39 years.

JOHN PERRY ALLISON, son of John Allison, graduated at Harvard College in 1854; studied law, and now resides in Sioux City, Ia.

ALFRED LAWS, son of Thomas Laws, Jr., graduated at Dartmouth College in 1858; is a teacher.

GEORGE MOORE, son of Nathaniel H. Moore, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1866; devoted himself to teaching; died at Cincinnati, May 5, 1867, aged 25 years.

AMOS KIDDER FISK, son of Francis Fisk, graduated at Harvard College in 1866; has become a journalist; engaged in the *Globe* newspaper office.

WILLIAM GARDNER HALE, son of William Hale, graduated at Harvard College in 1870; now a tutor in the same.

JONATHAN SMITH, son of John Smith, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1871; is now an attorney at law in Manchester.

FRANK LESLIE WASHBURN, son of George Washburn, graduated at Bates College, Lewiston, Me., in 1875.

Fifty graduates.

The following persons had only a partial course in college; there may have been more than these, but we have not been able to ascertain: —

SAMUEL A. HOLMES was in Dartmouth College two years, in the sophomore and junior classes, 1840, '41.

DAVID SMITH, son of Jenny Smith, was a member of Dartmouth College three years, in the class of 1823, but did not graduate.

ALBERT S. SCOTT was two years a member of the class of 1848.

CHARLES A. AMES, one year in Amherst College.

IRA ALLISON, one year in Dartmouth College, in the class of 1827.

THOMAS SPRING, two or three years in Williams College.

WILLIS A. FARNSWORTH in Amherst College a year and a half in the class of 1873.

List of the Lawyers of Peterborough.

Jeremiah Smith, James Wilson, Stephen P. Steele, James Walker, Artemas L. Holmes, David J. Clark, Edward S. Cutter, Charles G. Cheney, George A. Ramsdell, C. V. Dearborn, Albert S. Scott, Riley B. Hatch, Eugene Lewis, Ezra M. Smith, Frank G. Clark, Daniel M. White.

List of Natives and Inhabitants of Town who have Studied Law and Practised Elsewhere.

JONATHAN STEELE, son of Capt. David Steele, settled at Durham, and was a Judge in the Superior Court of New Hampshire, from Feb. 19, 1810 to 1812.

JOHN WILSON, son of Maj. Robert Wilson, practised his profession in Belfast, Me., and acquired much eminence. Was a Representative to Congress from Maine.

ZACCHEUS PORTER, son of James Porter, studied law, and was in partnership with John Wilson, at Belfast, Me., where he died at an early age.

DAVID STEELE, son of Gen. David Steele, at Hillsboro Bridge.

JONATHAN STEELE, son of Thomas Steele, at Epsom.

DAVID STEELE, son of Thomas Steele, at Dover.

DAVID STEELE, son of John Steele, at Goffstown; died Oct. 1, 1875, aged 80 years.

ISAAC P. OSGOOD, son of Dr. Kendall Osgood, at Boston

AMASA EDES, son of Samuel Edes, at Newport.

DAVID SCOTT, son of William Scott, at Columbus, O.

GUSTAVUS SWAN, son of John Swan, at Columbus; a judge in the courts in that state.

GEN. JAMES MILLER, in Greenfield.

THOMAS F. GOODHUE, in Greenfield.

STEPHEN MITCHELL, son of Benj. Mitchell, at Durham.

JOHN STUART, son of Charles Stuart, in Boston.

CHARLES JESSE STUART, son of Charles Stuart, at Lancaster.

JAMES WILSON, Jr., at Keene, and San Francisco, Cal.

JONATHAN SMITH, Jr., son of Jonathan Smith, at Bath.

GEORGE WALKER, son of James Walker, at Springfield.

NATHANIEL HOLMES, son of Samuel Holmes, at St. Louis; became a Judge of the Superior Court in Missouri, and Royal Professor of Law at Harvard College.

SAMUEL A. HOLMES, son of Samuel Holmes, St. Louis, Mo.

BERNARD B. WHITTEMORE, son of Bernard Whittemore, at Nashua.

JAMES SMITH, son of William Smith, at New Orleans.

GEORGE A. HUNT, son of Norton Hunt, at Quincy, Ill.

JOHN P. ALLISON, son of John Allison, at Sioux City, Ia.

SAMUEL JOHN TODD, son of Daniel Todd, at Beloit, Wis.

FREDERICK C. INGALLS, son of Cyrus Ingalls, at Chicago, Ill.

T. KNEELAND AMES, son of T. Parsons Ames, prepared for the law; went into the army and was killed, second Bull Run battle.

JONATHAN SMITH, son of John Smith, at Manchester.

Persons in Town who became Clergymen.

WILLIAM RITCHIE, son of James Ritchie. He was ordained at Canton first, and removed to Needham, Mass., where he died, Feb. 22, 1842, aged 60 years.

JAMES PORTER, Jr., son of James Porter, ordained at Pomfret, Conn., and remained pastor over one society twenty-five years; died at Pomfret, Ct., June, 1856, aged 71 years.

JOSEPH BRACKETT, son of Samuel Brackett; settled at Rushville, N. Y., where he died, Sept. 24, 1832, aged 41 years.

WALTER LITTLE, son of Thomas Little, changed his name to Fullerton; was settled at Antrim; died in Maryland in 1815.

NATHAN UPTON, a blacksmith, became a Methodist preacher; removed to Effingham, Ill.

Dr. DAVID SMILEY was a licensed Baptist preacher.

DAVID SMITH, son of Jenny Smith; went West.

JOSIAH BALLARD, son of William Ballard.

OREN B. CHENEY, D. D., son of Moses Cheney; President of Bates College, Me.

SOLOMON LAWS, son of Thomas Laws; Universalist clergyman.

JOHN H. MORISON, D. D., son of Nathaniel Morison; first settled at New Bedford, then at Milton, where he now resides.

S. HUDSON PARTRIDGE has had several pastorates; is now at Greenfield.

DANIEL MCCLENNING has had several pastorates.

SAMUEL F. CLARK; first settled at Athol; removed to Ware, where he died.

SAMUEL A. SMITH settled at Arlington, 1854, where he remained till his death, May 20, 1865, aged 36 years.

A List of the Physicians who have Practised Medicine in Town.

Dr. JOHN YOUNG was the first physician; he came to town in 1763 or '64; had an extensive practice. He died of a cancer on his face, Feb. 27, 1807, aged 68 years. *Vide Gen.*

DR. KENDALL OSGOOD came to town in 1788. He was a well educated physician, but did not do much business in town. He died Aug. 19, 1801, aged 45 years. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. JONATHAN WHITE, son of John White, Sen., was educated as a physician. He studied with Dr. Young, and received such training as he was able to give, but completed his studies in Boston, by attending the medical lectures just then instituted in New England for the first time. The blight of intemperance rested on this man early in his career, and closed his professional life almost as soon as begun. We find by the town records, in 1788, "that it was voted to engage Jonathan White to keep the grammar-school one year, if he could be engaged." We suppose he was engaged, by an anecdote told us only a short time since. A number of his scholars, almost men grown, had formed a plan to eject him from the school, and it was agreed that Daniel Robbe should take the initiatory steps in the affair. He exposed himself to discipline purposely, and was promptly called out by the teacher, who, seeing something wrong was afoot, by a rapid and violent seizure, thrust him headlong out of the house into the snow. The conspiracy was at an end at once.

They had mistaken their man. No school ever went on more successfully afterwards, and no teacher ever had better scholars than these same turbulent conspirators.

Dr. White seemed to be a man of rare accomplishments. His chirography was beautiful,—more like copperplate than anything else. It is supposed, by the writing, that he was employed by the then town clerk, Samuel Cuningham, to copy the proceedings of the town for the years 1785, '86, which come to the examiner of these records like an oasis in the desert. The spelling, punctuation, and use of capitals are all faultless, and show a man well versed in the English language. But he could do nothing as a physician; and after numerous attempts of his friends to reform him had utterly failed, he left town more than sixty years since, and died miserable and degraded, at Carlisle, Penn., having enlisted as a common soldier in the first part of the war of 1812.

Dr. David Smiley commenced practice in town as early as 1786, and continued it as long as his strength permitted. He died in extreme old age, Oct 3, 1855, aged 95 years, 5 months. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. Thomas H. Blood. It is uncertain when he came to town. We know that when Samuel Smith removed to his mills, and occupied his new residence at the end of his large building, Dr. Blood occupied his house at the Corner, Jan. 1, 1795. In the proceedings of the town in 1798, the following vote was passed, *viz.*, "Voted to set the meeting-house a little to the east of the house that Thomas H. Blood lives in, when built or moved."

We learn from descendants of Dr. Blood something in relation to his after life. Between 1800 and 1801, he removed to Bolton, and subsequently to Sterling, giving up the profession, and engaging in the hatting business; he also devoted himself to public life, having been a Representative for Sterling, and also a State Senator to the Legislature. He also became a brigadier-general in the militia of Massachusetts. He acquired much property by his business, but lost it in 1829 by the great depression in business, and never regained it. He had eight children. One son, Oliver, graduated at

Harvard College in 1821; studied the medical profession and took his M. D. at same institution, in 1826. Afterwards he devoted himself to dentistry in Worcester, and died in 1858. Another son, Thomas S., took his medical degree of M. D. at Harvard College in 1838, and is now practising dentistry in Fitchburg, Mass. One of his daughters married Prof. Oliver Stearns, of the Divinity School at Cambridge. She died June, 1871. Dr. Blood died at Worcester, May 15, 1848, aged 73 years, 3 months.

Dr. JOHN MUSSEY came to town in 1798. He never practised much in town, though a regularly educated man. He died Jan. 17, 1831, aged 85 years, 4 months. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. THOMAS PEABODY is remembered by some of the elderly inhabitants as an intemperate vagabond, who tramped about on foot, with a secret remedy, which he called his "arcanum." It was supposed to be some one of the preparations of antimony. With his secret remedy, he dispensed his skill equally to man and beast. He died at Greenfield, Nov. 6, 1822, aged 57 years.

Dr. WILLIS JOHNSON was born in Sturbridge, Mass., Dec. 21, 1786. He first commenced practice in Jaffrey, in 1807, and removed to Peterborough in January, 1808, where he remained till 1814, when he removed to Mason, where he remained the rest of his life. He died in 1859, aged 73 years.

Dr. JOHN STARR came to town in 1808 or 1809. He was a graduate of Harvard College in 1804. He remained till 1814, when he removed to Northwood; married Sally Virgin, of Concord; died Sept. 8, 1851, aged 67 years.

Dr. DAVID CARTER removed from Marlboro to town in 1812, and remained till 1820. He spent a few years in practice in Dublin, where he died, January, 1828.

Dr. JABEZ PRIEST commenced practice in town in 1816, and continued in the same till his death. He died of an epidemic dysentery, Aug. 17, 1826, aged 36 years. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. SAMUEL RICHARDSON came to town in 1820, and was in active practice till he removed to Watertown, Mass., in 1838. *Vide Gen.*

WILLIAM FOLLANSBEE, M. D. He succeeded Dr. Priest in his practice. Received his degree of M. D. at Dartmouth College in 1825. He remained in successful practice till his death, May 30, 1867, aged 66 years. *Vide Gen.*

RICHARD STEELE, M. D., began practice in 1825 or '26, but did not succeed, and left town. A. M. and M. D., Dartmouth College. He died at Durham, 1870, aged 73 years.

DANIEL B. CUTTER, M. D., 1835, Yale College. A. M., Dartmouth College. Born in Jaffrey, May 10, 1808; removed from Ashby to Peterborough in September, 1837. Is yet in the practice of his profession in town. *Vide Gen.*

ALBERT SMITH, M. D., graduated at Dartmouth College, 1825. Received from the same the degree of M. D., 1833; of LL. D., 1870. After spending five years in practice in Leominster, Mass., he removed to Peterborough in 1837, where he now resides. *Vide Gen.*

JOHN H. CUTLER, M. D. Born in Rindge, Feb. 16, 1834. Received his M. D. at Burlington College, Vt., in 1861. Practised his profession in Mason Village; was in the army as assistant surgeon in 1864, and removed to Peterborough in the fall of 1865, and has remained here since. *Vide Gen.*

WILLARD B. CHASE, M. D. Born in Claremont. Received his M. D., Harvard College, 1866; practised for a while in Greenfield, and removed to Peterborough in 1869, where he now resides. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. GEORGE GREELEY came to town in ——, and remained a few years.

The following homœopathists have been here at various times, *viz.*, Drs. Seavey, Chase, Bradford, and Dodge.

Mary Ann Kimball, M. D., is the homœopathic physician in town at the present time.

Natives and Inhabitants of Peterborough who became Physicians and Settled Elsewhere.

REUBEN D. MUSSEY, M. D., LL. D. Professor at Dartmouth Medical College, and Ohio Medical College.

Dr. FREDERICK A. MITCHELL studied the profession and practised it at various places; died at Manchester, July 28, 1869, aged 80 years. *Vide Gen.*

Dr. DAVID MITCHELL located himself as a physician at Bradford, where he suddenly died of a heart affection, Jan. 21, 1821, aged 39 years. *Vide Gen.*

JESSE SMITH, M. D. In Cincinnati, O. Professor of Anatomy and Surgery in the Ohio Medical College. Died of cholera, July, 1833, aged 40 years. *Vide Gen.*

WILLIAM LITTLE, son of Thomas Little, settled in Hillsboro, and was drowned in the Contoocook. *Vide Gen.*

ROBERT SMITH, son of John Smith. He practised in various places; died at Addison, Vt. *Vide Gen.*

WILLIAM H. PEABODY, M. D. Dartmouth College, in 1826. Settled in Gorham, Me., and died there, March 2, 1843, aged 42 years. *Vide Gen.*

ALBERT SMITH, M. D. Five years at Leominster, Mass. *Vide Gen.*

HIRAM J. EDES, M. D. Took his medical degree at the Hampden Sidney College, Va., and first practised in Kansas, and then removed to Cedar Rapids, Ia., where he now resides in the active practice of his profession. *Vide Gen.*

DAVID YOUNGMAN, M. D., graduated at Dartmouth College in 1839, and also took his medical degree in 1846. He practised ten years in Winchester, Mass., and is now in the practice of his profession in Boston, Mass.

GEORGE H. INGALLS, M. D., settled at Proctorsville, Vt., where he remained till the failure of his health, and died at Peterborough, May 26, 1849, aged 44 years. *Vide Gen.*

LUKE MILLER, M. D., at Woodstock, Vt., 1843; A. B., Norwich University in 1841. He is now practising his profession at Lanesboro, Minn. *Vide Gen.*

JOHN G. PARKER, M. D. at Dartmouth College. A. B. at Norwich University, Vt., in 1847. He practised twelve years at Dublin, and then removed to Warner, where he died, Sept. 12, 1869, aged 51 years. *Vide Gen.*

E. COOLIDGE RICHARDSON, M. D.; medical degree at Harvard College in 1842; now resides in Ware, Mass., in the practice of his profession. *Vide Gen.*

JAMES MORISON, M. D. Graduated Harvard College, 1844. Medical degree in Maryland University in 1846. Resided

many years at San Francisco, Cal.; was Professor of Theory and Practice in the Pacific University; now resides in Quincy, Mass., in the practice of his profession.

FREDERICK A. SMITH, M. D. Graduated Dartmouth College, 1852; M. D., 1855. Resided in Leominster, Mass.; died Dec. 20, 1856, aged 26 years.

CHAPTER XIII.

MUNICIPAL.

The Record of Town Meetings. — List of Moderators. — Town Clerks. — Selectmen. — Treasurers. — Representatives. — Committee of Safety.

THE town was incorporated Jan. 17, 1760, and the first meeting called by Hugh Wilson, authorized so to do by the charter, was held at the meeting-house, — the full proceedings of which are given in the fourth chapter.

The meetings of the town after this organization have been held continuously to the present time, of which there is a fair record preserved, with the exception of two meetings, one in 1770, under the clerkship of Deacon Samuel Mitchell, and the other, the presidential meeting in 1840, under the clerkship of A. C. Blodgett. The record is marred by only a few other omissions. In two or three instances, the warrant is not recorded, and a number of the clerks have neglected to certify to their record. The other errors are of minor importance; as bad spelling, a clumsy and obscure wording of the propositions before the meetings, a careless heading of the proceedings on the record, an omission of the date on the pages, and of marginal notices, rendering it often very difficult to consult it as a reference.

The names of all individuals who have held the principal offices in town, from 1760 to 1876, are here recorded, in the various lists which follow.

Those who have held offices the longest time are here presented :—

For Selectmen. — Hugh Miller held the office of selectman from 1805 to 1828, twenty-four years successively. Next to him is Thomas Steele, who held this office eighteen years. Asa Evans, Capt. William Wilson, twelve years each. Alexander Robbe, 2d, eleven years. Henry Ferguson and Charles Stuart, ten years each.

Town Clerks. — Rufus Forbush, to 1867, held this office twenty-one years. Thomas Steele, nineteen years. John Steele, fourteen years. Samuel Mitchell, thirteen years.

Moderators. — Samuel Smith, seventeen years. Timothy K Ames, fourteen years. Charles Scott, twelve years.

Treasurers. — James Walker, nine years. Hugh Miller, Henry Steele, Ervin H. Smith, seven years each.

Representatives. — John Smith, twelve years. James Wilson, Hugh Miller, and Jonathan Smith, nine years each.

List of Moderators of the Annual Meetings from the Incorporation of the Town to the Present Time, with the Years they Respectively Served, Arranged in the Order in which they first Appear upon the Record.

Hugh Wilson, 1760, 61, 62, 63, 64, 72, 73.
John Young, 1765, 66, 68, 69, 83, 84, 85.
Thomas Morison, 1767, 74.
Samuel Moore, 1771.
William Smith, 1775, 79.
Jotham Blanchard, 1776, 77, 78, 80, 81.
Samuel Mitchell, 1782.
David Steele, Sen., 1786, 87.
Jeremiah Smith, 1788, 90.
George Duncan, 1789.
Robert Smith, 1791.
Henry Ferguson, 1792.
John Smith, 1793, 97, 98, 99, 1801.
Samuel Smith, 1794, 1803, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.
Kendall Osgood, 1795.
David Steele, Jr., 1796, 1802, 4, 6, 8, 11, 17.
James Wilson, 1800, 5, 9, 13, 14.
Thomas Steele, 1807, 10.
John H. Steele, 1830, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37.
Timothy K. Ames, 1833, 34, 38, 39, 40, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 51, 55, 61.
David J. Clark, 1841.
Daniel B. Cutter, 1848, 49, 50.
Edward S. Cutter, 1852, 56, 57, 58.
Charles G. Cheney, 1853, 54.
Albert S. Scott, 1859, 62, 65.
Charles Scott, 1860, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76.
Samuel I. Vose, 1863, 64.

List of Town Clerks from the Incorporation of the Town to the Present Day, in the Order in which they Appear upon the Record.

John Ferguson, 1760, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66.
Samuel Mitchell, 1767, 68, 69, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80.
Matthew Wallace, 1781.
William Smith, 1782.
Samuel Cuningham, 1783, 84, 85, 86.
Thomas Steele, 1787, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 1800, 1, 2, 3, 4, 13.
John Steele, 1805, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.
Daniel Abbot, 1815.
Nathaniel Holmes, Jr., 1821, 22.
Stephen P. Steele, 1823, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.
Cyrus Ingalls, 1829, 30, 31, 32.
Rufus Forbush, 1833, 34, 35, 36, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66.
Moody Davis, 1837, 38.
A. C. Blodgett, 1839, 40.
Samuel Gates, 1841, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49.
Kendall C. Scott, 1867.
Daniel W. Gould, 1868.
Samuel N. Porter, 1869.
Charles A. Ames, 1870.
John H. Steele, 1871, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76.

A List of Selectmen from the Incorporation of the Town to the Present Day, with the Years they Served, Arranged in the Order in which they first Entered their Office.

Hugh Wilson, 1760, 64, 72.
Thomas Morison, 1760, 65, 66, 73, 79.
Jonathan Morison, 1760.
Joseph Caldwell, 1760, 67.
John Swan, Jr., 1760.
John Smith, 1761, 73.
William Mained, 1761.
William Smith, 1761, 67, 69, 71, 72, 73, 77, 78, 82.
John Taggart, Jr., 1761, 68.
James Robbe, 1761.
Samuel Mitchell, 1762, 66, 77, 78, 80.
William Ritchie, 1762.
John Morison, 1762.
William Robbe, Jr., 1762, 66, 74, 75, 77, 78, 85, 86.
John Gregg, 1762, 63, 67.
Samuel Moore, 1763, 72.
Hugh Gregg, 1763.
Alexander Robbe, 1763, 69, 71, 72, 83, 84, 85, 86.
Thomas Cuningham, 1763.
Samuel Todd, 1764.
John Cochran, 1764.
John White, 1764, 73.
John White, Jr., 1787.
Henry Ferguson, 1764, 71, 77, 78, 85, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92.
Robert Wilson, 1765, 71.
David Steele, Capt., 1765, 66, 69, 72, 73, 80.
Matthew Wallace, 1765, 80, 81, 82.
John Young, 1765, 66, 68, 74, 84.
William Miller, 1767.
John Wiley, 1767.
Samuel Gregg, 1768, 71, 80, 82.
Joseph Hammill, 1774.
Thomas Davison, 1774,

Robert Morison, 1774.
James Templeton, 1775, 76, 83, 84.
William McNee, Jr., 1775, 76, 79.
Samuel Cuningham, 1768, 76, 79, 81.
Thomas Turner, 1768.
William Moore, 1769.
James Miller, 1769.
James Cuningham, 1775.
Charles Stuart, 1775, 81, 84, 85, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98.
Aaron Brown, 1776.
Kelso Gray, 1776.
Jotham Blanchard, 1777, 78, 79.
Jonathan Wheelock, 1779.
Robert Holmes, 1780.
Thomas Stuart, 1783, 84.
Robert Smith, 1785, 92.
Thomas Steele, 1786, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 1800, 1, 2, 3, 4.
Nathaniel Evans, 1786.
Israel Taylor, 1786.
John Gray, 1787.
Nathan Dix, 1787.
George Duncan, 1788, 89.
George Duncan, Jr., 1805, 6, 7, 8, 9.
Jeremiah Smith, 1790, 91.
Asa Evans, 1793, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 1800, 1, 2, 3, 4.
Jonathan Smith, 1799, 1800, 1, 2, 3, 4.
Hugh Miller, 1805, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.
John Steele, 1805, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.
John Scott, 1810, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.
Nathaniel Morison, 1812, 13.
Robert White, 1813.
William Wilson, 1814, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28.
Nathaniel Moore, 1819, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26.
Alexander Robbe, 1824, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 43, 44.
Timothy Fox, 1827, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33.
Moses Dodge, 1829, 30, 31.
Samuel Holmes, 1829, 30.
George W. Senter, 1832, 33.
Timothy K. Ames, 1834, 35, 36, 37, 42, 46, 47, 49, 52.
Isaac Edes, 1835, 36, 37, 38.
William Scott, 1836, 37, 38, 42.
John Smith, 1838, 39, 40.
William M. White, 1839, 40.
John Todd, Jr., 1839, 40, 41.
Samuel Miller, 1841, 50, 51.
Samuel Adams, 1841, 59, 60.
Ezra Peavey, 1842.
Archelaus Cragin, 1843, 44, 45, 53, 54.
Abiel Peavey, 1843, 44, 45.
James G. White, 1845, 46.
John H. Steele, 1846.
James Scott, 1847, 48, 50, 56, 57, 65.
Isaac Hadley, 1847, 48, 49, 51, 52, 61, 62, 63.
Robert Fulton, 1848.
Josiah S. Morison, 1849, 50.
Edwin Steele, 1851.
William B. Kimball, 1852, 53.
Eri Spaulding, 1853, 54, 55.
Amzi Childs, 1854, 55.
Diocletian Melvin, 1855.
Thomas Little, 1856, 64, 65.
Samuel R. Miller, 1859, 60.
Asa Davis, 1856, 57, 58, 66, 67, 68.
Albert Frost, 1857, 58, 59.
William R. Heywood, 1858.
Charles H. Brooks, 1860, 61, 62, 63, 73, 75, 76.
Eli S. Hunt, 1861, 62, 63, 64.
Franklin Field, 1864, 65, 66.
John M. Collins, 1866, 67.
Samuel I. Vose, 1867, 68, 69.
Mortier L. Morrison, 1868, 69, 70.
Charles Barber, 1869, 70, 71.
John Q. Adams, 1870, 71, 72, 74, 75.
E. W. McIntosh, 1871, 72, 73.
John Cragin, 1872, 73, 74.
Augustus Fuller, 1874, 75, 76.
William Moore, 1876.

List of the Town Treasurers from the Incorporation of the Town to the Present Day, in the Order in which they Appear upon the Record.

William Smith, 1774, 75, 77.
Matthew Templeton, 1776.
William Alld, 1783, 84.
Robert Wilson, 1785, 86, 87, 88.
Thomas Steele, 1799.
Hugh Miller, 1821, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27.
James Walker, 1828, 29, 30, 31, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47.
Cyrus Ingalls, 1832.
Riley Goodridge, 1833, 34, 35.
William Moore, 1837, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42.
Stephen P. Steele, 1848.
Henry Steele, 1849, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56.
John Kinsley, 1855.
S. Hudson Caldwell, 1857, 58, 59, 60, 61, 66.
Kendall C. Scott, 1862, 63, 64.
Charles H. Brooks, 1865.
Ervin H. Smith, 1867, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72.
Ezra M. Smith, 1873.
Samuel N. Porter, 1874, 75, 76.

List of Representatives from the Incorporation of the Town to the Present Time, in the Order in which they Appear upon the Record.

Samuel Cuningham, April 25, 1775, to 3d Provincial Congress at Exeter.
William Smith, May 17, 1775, to 4th Provincial Congress at Exeter.
Samuel Moore, Dec. 21, 1775, to 5th Provincial Congress at Exeter.
Matthew Wallace, 1784.
Samuel Cuningham, 1786.
Nathan Dix, 1787.
Jeremiah Smith, 1788, 89, 90.
John Smith, 1791, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 1800, 1, 2.
James Wilson, 1803, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14.
Jonathan Smith, 1809, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28.
John Steele, 1810, 11.
Hugh Miller, 1815, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 31, 32.
John H. Steele, 1829.
James Walker, 1833, 34, 44.
Alexander Robbe, 1835, 36, 43, 44.
John Todd, 1837, 38, 39.
William Moore, 1838, 39, 40.
Timothy K. Ames, 1840, 41.
Stephen P. Steele, 1841, 42.
William Follansbee, 1842, 43.
Luke Miller, 1845, 46.
Josiah S. Morrison, 1845, 48.
Norton Hunt, 1847.
Samuel Adams, 1847.
A. P. Morrison, 1848, 62, 63.
Daniel McClenning, 1849, 50.
James Scott, 1849, 50.
Samuel Miller, 1851, 52.
Daniel B. Cutter, 1852.
Isaac Hadley, 1853.
Person C. Cheney, 1853, 54.
Asa Davis, 1854.
Albert Smith, 1855.
Albert S. Scott, 1855, 57, 66, 67.
Samuel Edes, 1857, 58.
Asa F. Gowing, 1858, 59.

John Smith, 1859, 60.
Andrew A. Farnsworth, 1860, 61.
Cornelius V. Dearborn, 1861, 62.
Granville P. Felt, 1863, 64.
Elijah M. Tubbs, 1864, 65.
Nathaniel H. Moore, 1865, 66.
John Wilder, 1867, 68.
Riley B. Hatch, 1868, 69.
Charles Wilder, 1869, 70.
George Dustan, 1870, 71.
Ezra M. Smith, 1871, 72.
Daniel W. Gould, 1872, 73.
Joseph Farnum, 1873, 74.
Levi Cross, 1874, 75.
Franklin Field, 1875, 76.
Charles Scott, 1876.

Committees of Safety for the Years 1775, 76, 77, 78, 79, *as they Appear upon the Record.*

1775.

Aaron Brown,
Henry Ferguson,
Kelso Gray,
Alexander Robbe,
William McNee.

1776.

William Robbe,
David Steele,
Jotham Blanchard,
Samuel Mitchell,
Robert Wilson.

1777.

John White,
Jonathan Wheelock,
Robert Gray.

1778.

David Steele,
Thomas Davison,
Matthew Wallace,
Matthew Templeton.

1779.

James Templeton,
Samuel Gregg,
James Cuningham,
Charles Stuart,
John White.

CHAPTER XIV.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

No Records of the Military. — Efficient Military Training. — French and Indian Wars. — American Revolution. — Association Test. — Men who Served in the Revolution. — At Battle of Bunker Hill. — War of 1812. — The Late Rebellion. — Men in Service. — Soldiers' Monument.

It will be impossible to collect any information of the various military organizations that have existed in town; and any attempts must result in only a fragmentary record, with little that would be of interest to any one. From the frequency of military titles in the town records — and our fathers were particular in bestowing them, — we suppose the men thus recognized by their titles were among the best citizens, and were the leading men in the town. Military companies existed quite early — anterior to the Revolution, — and the men who bore military titles were numerous. At one time the street road divided the town as to the military, and all those on the east side of it constituted the East Company, and those on the west, the West Company. This arrangement was sustained for many years. There was also a flourishing company of artillery, established about 1804, first commanded by the late Hon. James Wilson, which was well sustained for many years, till removed to Lyndeboro; and, still earlier, a company of cavalry existed here, or in the immediate vicinity, but when or how it flourished, and when it became extinct, we do not know, — probably before the present century came in.

Any attempts to investigate the early history of the various military companies that have existed in town, from time to time, would, in their results, be so unsatisfactory and meagre as to be of little or no value. The citizens of Peterborough participated largely in all the service of the field in times of war. They had a military training at home, and frequent experiences in the French and Indian wars, that made them ready and efficient soldiers at once. In the use of fire-arms they were always skilled; it was common to find a musket in every house, and those who could use them adroitly, either in securing wild game, or in protecting themselves against the incursions of the Indians, were numerous.

The French and Indian wars were a heavy drag upon all the infant and frontier settlements of New Hampshire. We shall see how readily and freely, at the call of the mother government, * they aided in the protection of their extensive frontier, by their services, their property, and their lives. We regret that there are so few data now existing by which we can do proper justice to these heroic men. We can only rely on the account given of them in a sketch of Peterborough, by Rev. Elijah Dunbar, in 1822, † and manuscript notes in 1833 or '34, by Hon. Samuel Smith, ‡ any other means of information being entirely unknown to us.

The following list of soldiers was furnished in the war of 1755: *viz.*, James Turner, brother of Thomas Turner, Samuel Wallace, William Swan, son of old John Swan. Of these, James Turner died in camp at Crown Point, 1760. In 1756 Thomas Cuningham and Samuel Cuningham. The former, who was a lieutenant, died of small-pox.

In 1757, Charles McCoy, John Stuart, son of William Stuart, David Wallace, son of Maj. Wallace, Wm. Wilson, brother of Maj. Robert Wilson, Robert McNee, son of old Dea. McNee, John Dinsmore, John Kelley, brought up by

* Holmes' American Annals de French War, 1758, and a call for three hundred men from N. H. 2d vol., p. 225.

† Topographical and Historical Account of Peterborough, by Rev. Elijah Dunbar. Historical Collections.

‡ Manuscript Notes, by Hon. Samuel Smith, made in 1833 or '34.

Rev. Mr. Harvey. All the above, being enlisted in Rodgers' Company of Rangers, were killed in one unfortunate moment, having fallen into an Indian ambuscade, March 13, 1758, near Lake George; while Samuel Cuningham and Alexander Robbe, being of this brave but unfortunate band, and in the same fight, escaped.

In 1758, Wm. Scott, Jeremiah Swan, Samuel Stinson, Alexander Scott. Of these, Jeremiah Swan died in camp.

In 1759, Robert Wilson, Daniel Allat, John Taggart, Wm. Scott, George McLeod.

In 1760, Samuel Gregg, John Taggart, Samuel Cuningham, William Cuningham, Moore Stinson, Henry Ferguson, John Swan, William Scott, Solomon Turner, John McCollom, John Turner, John Hogg, David Scott. Of these, John Turner and John McCollom died somewhere on the lake, and John Hogg and David Scott, son of Alexander Scott, both took the small-pox in returning, and died at home.

The whole number enlisted from Peterborough during the war was thirty-two, and fourteen were lost in this war, a great number from a settlement so small and weak. It must have been seriously felt, and been a heavy damper upon the progress of the town.

American Revolution. — The American Revolution came as the great event of the early settlers, although they had had various experiences in the French and Indian wars. We are surprised that they were not appalled by such imminent danger as they incurred by their bold and defiant course, and sometimes think that they did not realize what they were doing, or what mighty consequences might flow from their conduct. But they were intelligent men; they had weighed the whole matter in their minds; they were not rushing impulsively and rashly upon a great danger; they were ready, as their declaration in the Association Test avers, to meet the enemy with force of arms, and give their lives and their all, if need be, to the cause. They knew their prowess, too; they had had much experience in the French and Indian wars, and they were accustomed to the use of fire-arms, which

they all possessed, and which were much used in the early settlements in securing wild game as a part of their support; so that they were already soldiers in skill in the use of fire-arms, in hardihood and courage, and in everything but the military drill. When the trial came, the town was truly patriotic and loyal to the principles of freedom. They never flinched or paled in the hour of peril, when the alternative seemed to be either ease and safety, by not engaging in the movement of the times, or, by action, the risk of all they had, their wealth, honor, and lives in an uncertain conflict.

When the Association Test, or virtual Declaration of Independence, was sent to the various towns in the State, by the General Committee of Safety, eighty-three persons in town, out of a population of only a little over five hundred, signed it. It probably embraced every efficient man in town, capable of bearing arms. Not a single Tory was ever known. Our ancestors not only professed to be willing to risk everything for the cause, but they really did so; and during the war of the Revolution no town could be more patriotic in furnishing men and supplies to the army than Peterborough. So many went to the war, that it is a wonder to us how the out-door work at home was carried on. The noble women of that day kept all home-matters right and prosperous in their absence. They were hale and hearty, and could, if necessity required it, work as effectually out of doors as within. Their hearts were in the enterprise, as much as those of the men, and their hands and efforts were little less effectual in the ultimate success of the war.

It seems strange to us, and shows most conclusively the sagacity and foresight of our fathers, that they who had felt so little of the despotism of the mother country, who had enjoyed a continuous prosperity, and who were in comfortable circumstances, could, from apprehended danger to their liberties in the future, shown by the various arbitrary acts in relation to taxation without representation, and the transportation of persons to England for trial, have engaged in such a perilous undertaking.

The following order was sent to the selectmen of Peterborough.

IN COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, *April 12, 1776.*

In order to carry the underwritten resolve of the Honorable Continental Congress into execution, you are requested to desire all males above twenty-one years of age (lunatics, idiots, and negroes excepted) to sign the declaration on this paper; and, so done, to make return hereof, together with the name or names of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the General Assembly or Committee of Safety of this colony.

M. WEARE, *Chairman.*

IN CONGRESS, *March 14, 1776.*

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several assemblies, conventions, and councils, or Committees of Safety of the United Colonies, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective colonies who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not associated, and refuse to associate, to defend by arms the United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the British fleets and armies. — *Extract from the Minutes.*

CHARLES THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

In consequence of the above resolution of the Honorable Continental Congress, and to show our determination in joining our American brethren in defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the inhabitants of the United Colonies:

We, the subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise that we will, to the utmost of our powers, at the risque of our lives and fortunes, with arms, oppose the hostile proceedings of the British fleets and armies against the United American Colonies.

Neal Hammill,	Aaron Brown,
Thomas Morison,	Samuel Mitchell,
Thomas Cuningham,	Charles White,
James Templeton,	William Swan,
Thomas Davison,	Samuel Houston,
Samuel Miller, Sen.,	William White,

William McNee, Jr.,
James Cuningham,
Alexander Stewart,
Samuel Miller, Jr.,
James Ritchie,
William McNee,
John Scott,
William Smith,
William McCoy,
James Robbe,
Joseph Hammill,
Jonathan Wheelock,
John Gragg, Jr.,
Robert Smith,
John Smith,
Moses Cuningham,
William McKean,
John White, Jr.,
Samuel Moore,
William Robbe,
William Miller,
Samuel Mitchell,
John Young,
Abraham Holmes,
John Mitchell,
David Steele,
John McMurphy,
Robert Morison,
Thomas Turner,
John Smith,
John Morison,
Thomas Morison, Jr.,
Jotham Blanchard,
Samuel Cuningham,
Robert Wilson,
John Gragg,
John White,
William White,
David White,
Isaiah Taylor,
Charles Stuart,
Samuel Gragg,
William Spear,
Kelso Gray,
Matthew Templeton,
William Scott,
Thomas Steele,
James Taggart,
Elijah Puffer,
Daniel Mack,
Samuel Miller, ye 3d,
Alexander Robbe,
Samuel Hogg,
Samuel McAlister,
Robert Gray,
John Butler,
Isaac Mitchell,
Thomas Stewart,
John Blair,
John Taggart,
James Hockley,
William Moore,
Timothy Miner,
Hugh Willson,
Samuel Willson,
James Willson,
John Willson,
John White,
Benjamin Mitchell,
David Ames,
Adams Gragg.

PETERBOROUGH, *June 17, 1776.*

Pursuant to the within request, the inhabitants of the said town

of Peterborough hath subscribed their names to the within resolve of the Continental Congress.

JAMES TEMPLETON,
SAMUEL CUNINGHAM, } *Selectmen.*
WILLIAM MCNEE,

A true copy, examined and compared with the original.

N. BOUTON.

CONCORD, June 27, 1871.

The following persons served in the Revolution in time and place as designated after each name. This is exclusive of those who were mustered for the battle of Bunker Hill.

The account, as here presented, was found among some old papers in the ministerial library of the Congregational Society, in the handwriting of Judge Smith, drawn up, probably, with some view of presenting the services rendered by these individuals in a suitable form for adjustment. But we have no definite account that any or only slight remuneration was ever made to them by either the town or State. It shows how readily and promptly the various calls made upon this little community, for attaining and securing their liberties, were responded to.

D. Ames, served with Capt. Alexander Robbe, on alarm, from June 29 to July 3, 1777.

Thomas Alexander, mustered Dec. 17, 1777.

Benj. Alld, discharged Dec. 20, 1781.

Luther Adams, discharged Dec. 20, 1781.

John Alexander, mustered in April, 1777; Col. E. Hale's report.

Joseph Babb, alarm from June 29 to July 3, 1777. July, 1776, five months. Mustered in April, 1777. Report of Col. E. Hale. Served three years.

W. Blair, alarm June 29 to July 3, 1777. Army at Cambridge, 1775. For Bennington, July 19, 1777. Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777.

John Blair, raised July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26. Army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778. Mustered April, 1777, of twenty-two men for Peterborough. Report of Col. E. Hale.

Zaccheus Brooks, mustered June 15, 1779, by Enoch Hale; never joined.

John Barlow, by order of Committee of Safety, July 12, 1782.

John Burns, discharged Dec. 21, 1781.

Jacob Baldwin, discharged Dec. 21, 1781.

John Butler, served in the army at Cambridge, 1775.

Andrew Bailey, in army 1776, one year's man; army at Cambridge, 1775.

Ensign W. Cochran, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

James Cuningham, mustered Sept. 29, 1776, to serve two months. Served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778.

Serj. Samuel Cuningham, alarm from June 29 to July 3, 1777. Raised July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26; for Bennington. Served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778. Alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775, one week.

Joseph Covel, from July 9 to Nov. 27, 1780.

W. De Cannon, among the claims; of Londonderry.

John Canada, of twenty-two men mustered April, 1777. Report of Col. E. Hale.

Samuel Caldwell, served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778. Col. E. Hale's Regt.

Thomas Davison, three months, spring of 1777. Engaged July 7; discharged Oct. 21, 1780, three months, fifteen days.

Charles Davison, engaged July 9; discharged Dec. 26, 1779.

Solomon Dodge, engaged June 28, 1780; discharged in December.

Richard Emery, mustered Sept. 20, 1776, for two months. In army at Cambridge, 1775.

Lieut. Henry Ferguson, served forty-four days, at Cambridge, last of 1775.

Jeremiah Fairchild, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

Thomas Green, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Engaged June 28, 1780; discharged in December.

William Graham, in army at Cambridge, 1775; of twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. One year's men for 1776.

John Graham, in army at Cambridge, 1775. One year's men, 1776. Mustered by E. Hale, July, 1776, to serve five months.

James Gregg, served in army at Cambridge, 1775.

Samuel Gregg, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775, five days. Alarm at Walpole.

Adams Gregg, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Army at

Cambridge, last of 1775. On alarm from June 29 to July 3, 1777. Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778, under Capt. Samuel Cuningham.

Hugh Gregg, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Alarm from June 29 to July 3, 1777.

John Gregg, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Robert Gray, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Richard Gilchrist, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

William Gilchrist, one year's men, 1776.

John Gray, in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778, Co. of Capt. S. Cuningham. On alarm at Walpole.

James Gordon, engaged Sept. 19; dismissed Nov. 27, 1781.

James Hockley, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Of twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. One year's men, 1776.

Joseph Henderson, of twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Raised July 19, 1777, for Bennington; discharged Jan. 1, 1778.

John Halfpenny, one year's men, 1776. In army at Cambridge, 1775.

Nathaniel Holmes, mustered Sept. 20, 1776, two months.

Simson Hogg, for Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

Samuel Huston, alarm, June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Served in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778.

Isaac Huston, alarm, June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

William Huston, alarm at Walpole, 1777.

John Kennedy, mustered July, 1776, five months. Town claims, — as paid by town.

Solomon Leonard, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

Samuel Lee, of twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Alarm at Walpole.

Thomas Little, in army at Cambridge, 1775. For Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

Robert Lakin, engaged July 7; discharged Oct. 21, 1780.

Timothy Locke, enlisted Capt. Scott's Co., Aug. 9, 1780. Engaged June 28, 1780; discharged December. Served six months.

Samuel Lewis, on alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., five days.

James Miller, alarm of Lexington, April 19, 1775.

William McNee, alarm of Lexington, April 19, 1775. Alarm at Walpole. To Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777.

John Mitchell, alarm of Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm at Walpole.

Samuel Mitchell, alarm of Lexington, April 19, 1775. At alarm,

in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Of the twenty-two men mustered April, 1777. Town claim for three years. Alarm at Walpole. For Bennington, July 19, 1777. Discharged Sept. 26. Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777.

John Morison, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Served in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778. On alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

Benjamin Mitchell, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Mustered Sept. 20, 1776, to serve two months. For Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

John Moore, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Thomas Morison, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Mustered Sept. 20, 1776, for two months. Alarm at Walpole. Alarm, Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. For Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26. Saratoga, Sept. 28 to Oct. 25, 1777.

Ensign Munro, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in army, 1776, one year's men.

James Mitchell, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26. On alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

Isaac Mitchell, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Alarm at Walpole. Returned from service April 2, 1781.

Samuel Moore, Jr., in army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Alarm, in Co. of Capt. Alexander Robbe, from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

William Mitchell, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in army, 1776, one year's men.

Randall McAlister, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Three years. Town claims. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Alarm, in Co. of Alexander Robbe, June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

John Mather, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Town claims. Suppose three years.

William McCoy, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778. E. Hale's Regt.

George McCloud, mustered July, 1776, for five months.

Timothy Mixter, mustered July, 1776, for five months. Alarm,

in Co. of Capt. Alexander Robbe, from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Town claims. Jackson's Regt., Mass. Of the twenty-two men mustered April, 1777.

Robert McCloud, mustered July, 1776, for five months.

John Murphy, mustered July, 1776, for five months.

William McKean, mustered Sept. 20, 1776, to serve two months.

Peter McAlister, from Dec. 5 to March 15, 1777.

Joseph Miller, on alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. In Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778. Col. E. Hale's Regt.

Samuel Miller, Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26. Alarm at Walpole, 1777.

William Moore, Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

Charles McCoy, in army in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778. Col. E. Hale's Regt. At Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 24.

John Miller, Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777. Alarm at Walpole.

Daniel Mack, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Charles McClurg, engaged July 7; discharged Oct. 21, 1780, three months, fifteen days.

Robert Morison, alarm at Walpole.

Sergeant —— Page, mustered July, 1776, to serve five months. Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26.

Abel Parker, engaged July 7; discharged Oct. 21, 1780.

Jeduthun Roberts, enlisted in camp. Entered by order of the Committee of Safety, July 12, 1782.

John Richey, in army at Cambridge, 1775; died there.

Samuel Robbe, Saratoga, Sept. 28, 1777; discharged Oct. 25. Engaged Sept. 19; discharged Nov. 27, 1781. On alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co.

William Robbe, Bennington, July 19, 1777; discharged Sept. 26. Service from Dec. 5, 1776 to March 15, 1777.

James Richey, in army at Cambridge, 1775. On alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., five days.

R. Richardson, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

Capt. Alexander Robbe, on an alarm, June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Mustered July, 1776, for five months.

William Swan, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. On alarm, in Co. of Capt. Alexander Robbe, from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

Alexander Stuart, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

Charles Stuart, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Engaged from Dec. 5, 1776, to March 15, 1777, three months. In Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778. Alarm at Walpole, 1777, five days.

William Scott, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. For Saratoga, Sept. 28, and discharged Oct. 25, 1777. Alarm at Walpole.

William Scott, Jr., alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Mustered July, 1776, for five months.

Capt. William Scott, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served, 1776, one year's men.

Lieut. William Scott, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in 1776, one year's men.

James Stanford, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. On town claims; a three year's man.

Ephraim Stevens, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Alarm at Walpole. Died in the service.

Thomas Scott, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in 1776, one year's men.

James Stinson, in army at Cambridge, 1775.

Thomas Sanders, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777.

David Scott, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777.

John Scott, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777.

John Smith, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Mustered to serve five months.

Robert Smith, mustered by E. Hale, to serve five months. Mustered Sept. 20, 1776, to serve two months.

James Smith, in alarm of Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

Jeremiah Smith, raised for Bennington, July 19; discharged Sept. 26, 1777.

Thomas Smith, in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778. Served from Dec. 5 to March 15, 1777, three months. Saratoga, Sept. 28. Returned Oct. 25, 1777.

R. Swan, mustered by Col. E. Hale, for five months. On alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

John Swan, Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777. March, on alarm of Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

Thomas Steele, on alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Alarm at Walpole.

Capt. David Steele, alarm at Walpole.

Thomas Sanderson, alarm at Walpole, five days.

Amos Spofford, enlisted by Maj. Scott, Aug. 9, 1780.

Samuel Speer, three years; town claims.

John Stroud; town claims.

James Taggart, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Served from Dec. 5, 1776, to March 15, 1777. On town claims; three years. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777.

S. Treadwell, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in army, 1776, one year's men.

Joseph Taylor, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Died in Cambridge, 1775.

Thomas Temple, in army at Cambridge, 1775; died in Cambridge, 1775.

Isaiah Taylor, served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778.

John Taggart, alarm at Walpole, 1777. Of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Served in Rhode Island; he died, Mount Independence, 1777.

Capt. Robert Wilson, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775.

John White, Sen., alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. Alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days.

Corp. John White, at Saratoga, Sept. 28, 1777; returned Oct. 25. Rhode Island, 1779.

Charles White, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in New York from Dec. 5, 1776, to March 15, 1777. Rhode Island from Aug. 28, 1778.

W. White, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in New York, from Dec. 5, 1776, to March 15, 1777. Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777.

David White, alarm at Lexington, April 19, 1775. In army at Cambridge, 1775. Served in Rhode Island, Aug 28, 1778.

Titus Wilson, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Alarm at Walpole; a negro; died at Mount Independence, 1777.

Jonathan Wheelock, of the twenty-two men furnished April, 1777. Saratoga, Sept. 28; returned Oct. 25, 1777. Alarm, in Capt. Alexander Robbe's Co., from June 29 to July 3, 1777, five days. Served in Rhode Island, April 28, 1778.

M. Woodcock, in army at Cambridge, 1775. Mustered July, 1776, to serve five months. Served in Rhode Island, from Aug. 28, 1778.

James Wilson, mustered from July, 1776, to serve five months.

James White, Bennington, July 19, 1777, to Sept. 26. Served in Rhode Island, Aug. 28, 1778.

Lues Wheelock, engaged from July 7; discharged Oct. 21, 1780.

Thomas Williams, engaged from July 9 to Nov. 27, 1780.

John Wallace, enlisted by Committee of Safety, July 12, 1782.

A List of Those who Volunteered, on the 17th of June, 1775, to the Battle of Bunker Hill. Derived Principally from the History of Peterborough, by Rev. Elijah Dunbar, and the Manuscript Notes of Hon. S. Smith.

Capt. William Scott.. Short, by S. S.

Lieut. William Scott. Long, by S. S. Wounded.

George McLeod, wounded. His name does not appear again.

James Hockley.

John Graham, wounded.

David Scott, James Scott, Thomas Scott, David Robbe.

Randall McAlister, wounded.

John Taggart, died at Mount Independence, 1777.

Samuel Mitchell, Thomas Morison.

David Allat; his name does not appear again.

Thomas Greene, wounded.

Joseph Henderson, Richard Gilchrist.

Ensign William Cochran, John Swan, and Jonathan Barnett; these three were on duty, but not in the battle.

Rev. John Morrison remained in camp, and excused himself from accompanying his friends, alleging that the lock of his gun was so injured as to be useless. Shortly after he passed over to Boston and joined the British.

McAlister and Greene were severely wounded. Greene, in a fainting and almost expiring state, was saved by his friend Gilchrist, who transported him on his back from Bunker Hill to Medford.

In addition to the above the manuscript notes of S. S. add the following names: —

William Scott, father to James Scott, Esq.

Joseph Greene.

Dudley Taggart (known as Judge Taggart). Samuel Morison thinks he was not in the battle.

William Gilchrist.

William Blair. Samuel Morison thinks he was not, — John Todd thinks he was.

William White. Samuel Morison thinks not.

Charles White, James McKean.

By the above account, one hundred and forty different men of Peterborough were called for longer or shorter periods, during the Revolutionary war, and, in addition to these, five more; *viz.:* —

George McLeod, David Allat, Jonathan Barnett, Dudley Taggart, Joseph Greene, who were in the battle of Bunker Hill, whose names do not again appear, making in all one hundred and forty-five different persons from this infant settlement who rendered military service during the war.

THE WAR OF 1812. — We do not know of one single individual from this town who voluntarily enlisted as a soldier in the regular army of this war. A draft of soldiers from Peterborough for three months was ordered in 1814, for the defence of Portsmouth, and the following officers and men volunteered for the service, *viz.:* —

Col. John Steele, 2d Lieut. James B. Todd, Corp. Ahimaz Jewett, John Gray, John T. Hagget, David Miller, Robert Morison, Brown Shattuck, William Upton, Stephen Warner, John Ames, Nathaniel Smith, Daniel Edes, Russel Nay, David Wilson, David A. Hatch, Joseph Washburn, Nathan Wait, Nathan Upton, David Evans, Andrew Holmes, Samuel Pettes, Sergt. Isaac Hadley.

The British naval force did not attack Portsmouth, as was apprehended, and the soldiers were discharged without serving out their time.

The following vote was passed in town meeting, April 4, 1815: —

"Voted, To give the soldiers that volunteered to go to Ports-

mouth last year five dollars per month in addition to what is allowed by the general and State government."

The town did not furnish much aid to this war, except in the unequalled services of Gen. James Miller, one of her sons, whose bravery and military exploits were more than equal to a regiment of men, and have afforded one of the brightest pages in the history of that war.

War of the Rebellion, 1861. — The war of the Rebellion, which came so unexpectedly to all, was met by our citizens, irrespective of party, with alacrity and zeal. In the first call for volunteers, after the fire on Fort Sumter, our citizens, from the promptings of patriotism and without any pecuniary inducements such as were subsequently held out for volunteers, came forward and eagerly enlisted, and were at once ready for service. In the first enlistment, May, 1861, into Capt. E. Weston's Company, 2d Regiment, Co. G, nineteen were enrolled, and at once marched forward and were engaged in the first Bull Run battle, that introduced the bloody scenes of the great civil contest. In the autumn of the same year, thirty-eight men enlisted into the 6th Regiment, and many others joined various regiments in the State till 1862, when twenty-eight enlisted in the 13th Regiment, commanded by Capt. Nathan Stoodley. All these enlistments were going on till the draft of 1864, in which the several towns offered large bounties, in addition to those of the State and general government, to make it an object pecuniarily for individuals to enlist. As the war terminated abruptly early in 1865, those who last enlisted were richly rewarded for their risk and adventure.

The whole number enlisted from town was two hundred and nine. We have, in the following list, the names, ages, terms of enlistment, the regiments joined, and the various incidents relating to the several persons, as to casualties, deaths, etc.: —

Officers, Soldiers, and Seamen of the Town of Peterborough,

who have been in Service of the United States since the Commencement of the Rebellion.

ARMY.

April 22, 1861. George W. Rines, age 23, 1st Reg., Co. G. 3 mos.

May 20, Elmer J. Starkey, age 21, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. In second Bull Run battle severely wounded in the thigh, and left on the field of battle, where he was taken prisoner.

15, John Reagan, age 23, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Wounded at first Bull Run battle, and subsequently taken prisoner at Glendale, Va.

20, Alpha E. Ames, age 20, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

24, Joseph Bolio, age 28, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

15, Daniel W. Gould, age 22, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Wounded in battle at Williamsburg, and had one arm amputated near the shoulder.

Nicholas Duffey, age 21, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

Charles O. Collister, age 23, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. In second Bull Run battle he was wounded in the bowels, left on the field, and reported afterwards as killed.

Albert J. Farnsworth, age 19, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

24. Abbot A. Forbush, age 21, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

15, Gilman T. Gould, age 24, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Reënlisted Jan. 1, 1864. Promoted to 1st Lieutenant, Feb. 5, 1865.

Alonzo M. Hannaford, age 20, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Wounded at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

Newman Hall, age 29, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died at Washington, Dec. 11, 1862.

24, Nelson Hurd, age 40, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Reenlisted Veteran.

25, John J. Moore, age 22, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

20, James E. Saunders, age 30, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Promoted to Sergeant Major, Sept. 1, 1863. Reënlisted June 1, 1864, and promoted to Captain.

Aug. 6, James M. Hannaford, age 28, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

Sept. 10, Frank E. Howe, age 19, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Killed at Fair Oaks, Va., June 23, 1862.

July 15, Darius Hadley, age 19; George W. Hadley, age 22; William P. Coolidge, age 23; Elihu Wilder, age 21. 3 yrs. 2d N. H. Band. Mustered out, Aug. 8, 1862.

Aug. 1, Richard B. Richardson, age 39, 3d Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs.

9, Charles Jewett, age 34, 3d Reg., Co I. 3 yrs. Appointed Armorer, June, 1863. Reënlisted Feb. 15, 1865. 1 yr., 1st N. H. Cavalry.

30, Frank Matthews, age 21, 4th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded at Drury's Bluffs.

Emery Wyman, age 18, 4th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded May 16, and Aug. 16, 1864.

Lyman Wyman, age 22, 4th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs.

26, Stedman W. Piper, age 18, 4th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Discharged 1864; reënlisted, and afterwards deserted to the enemy at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

George Welding, age 26, 4th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Killed in battle, July 24, 1864.

27, Henry S. Gould, age 35, 4th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability. Reënlisted, substitute for Albert Stevens, Sept. 2, 1863, 8th Reg., Co. B.

28, Luther G. Crosby, age 19, 4th Reg., Co. C. 3 yrs. Died in hospital, Beaufort, N. C., Aug. 26, 1863.

Sept. 10, George Wyman, age 28, 4th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs.

Aug. 26, German N. Breed, age 26, 5th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Died at Fairfax Court House, of typhus fever, March 27, 1862.

Oct. 12, Ancil D. Holt, age 38, 5th Reg., Co. K. Discharged for disability, May 27, 1862.

Aug. 28, George M. Spaulding, age 23, 5th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Killed in battle at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

Sept. 2, James Nichols, age 28, 5th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Wounded in arm at White Oak Swamp. Transferred to Invalid Corps, Jan. 1, 1863.

Nov. 28, Charles Scott, age 32, 6th Reg. Major, and promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. Resigned, Oct. 14, 1862.

John A. Cummings, age 24, 6th Reg. Lieutenant, and promoted to Captain. Discharged for promotion, April 5, 1864. Reënlisted, and appointed a Major in the 1st N. H. Cavalry, Co. E, March 19, 1864.

Oct. 14, John S. Smith, age 23, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Promoted from Sergeant to Adjutant, March 20, 1863. Wounded at Cemetery Hill. At expiration of his three years he was recommended as 1st Lieutenant in U. S. Veteran Volunteers, and promoted to Captain in 1865; mustered out June, 1866, services no longer required.

4, Henry C. Lakeman, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Transferred to Invalid Corps, May 13, 1865.

9, Osgood Hadley, age 24, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Discharged, and reënlisted as Veteran, Dec. 20, 1863.

7, George W. Hadley, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Died March 3, 1863, at Newport News, Va.

Sept. 25, John P. Webber, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded May 12, 1864. Reënlisted Feb. 15, 1864. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps.

23, Allison G. Howe, age 22, 6th Reg., Co. E. Had a lung fever at Roanoke Island; was transferred to hospital at Newport News; subsequently discharged.

Oct. 11, William H. Wallace, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Died at Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1863.

Sept. 30, Lucius H. Farwell, age 24, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Died of measles, at Hatteras Inlet, N. C., Jan. 29, 1862.

Oct. 1, Henry E. Badger, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Reënlisted Dec. 30, 1863, as Veteran, and promoted to 2d Lieutenant, Jan. 1, 1865. Wounded June 3, 1864, and July 30, 1864.

15, Martin White, age 21, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded May 16, 1864, at Spottsylvania, Va., through both thighs; had gangrene in one leg,

which was lessened in size and weakened. Reenlisted as Veteran, Dec. 24, 1863. Had a 1st Lieutenant commission sent him, but declined it.

Oct. 19, Christopher M. Wheeler, age 22, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Died of measles at Hatteras, N. C., Feb. 20, 1862. Interred in Peterborough.

5, David D. Page, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability. Reënlisted Aug. 9, 1864, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop H.

3, Munro A. Smith, age 21, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Chief Bugler.

Sept. 28, Cyrus Henry Farmer, age 21, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Died Aug. 17, 1863, at Covington, Ky.

Oct. 7, David A. Cram, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Killed at second Bull Run battle, Aug. 29, 1862.

Sept. 24, Allen T. Perry, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability.

Oct. 15, Jackson Brackett, age 23, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded in right arm, Sept. 17, 1862. Discharged for disability, Nov. 6, 1862.

28, Alfred Perry, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded Dec. 13, 1862, and died after the amputation of his leg for injury to the knee, Jan. 27, 1863.

Nov. 1, Jonathan Smith, age 18, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability. Reënlisted Aug. 16, 1864, in 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop E.

28, Timothy K. Ames, 2d, age 24, 6th Reg. Sergeant Major, promoted to 1st Lieutenant, Aug. 5, 1862. Killed in second Bull Run battle, Aug. 29, 1862; body never recovered.

26, Marshall K. Ames, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded in right arm, by which he lost the rotatory motion of the arm.

28, Charles L. Fuller, age 30, 6th Reg., 3 yrs. 2d Lieutenant, promoted to 1st Lieutenant. Wounded in second Bull Run battle, Aug. 29, 1862, and died in hospital, Sept. 11, 1862.

2, James K. Blake, age 40, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs.

Philemon W. Cross, age 37, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Died by collision of the steamers West

Point and the George Peabody, on the Potomac, Aug. 13, 1862.

Nov. 23, John M. Dodd, age 24, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Sergeant Major, promoted to 2d Lieutenant. Died May 14, 1864. Enlisted as Veteran.

7, Charles H. Fay, age 20, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Died Jan. 10, 1862, at Alexandria, Va., of pneumonia.

1, Charles Nims, age 32, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability, Aug. 12, 1863.

6, Alvarado Robbe, age 30, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs.

2, Charles C. Silver, age 22, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability, Dec. 22, 1862.

15, Washington Swett, age 24, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Wounded in second Bull Run battle, and had his left leg amputated.

Oct. 28, Henry C. Taggart, age 35, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Killed at second Bull Run battle, Aug. 29, 1862; body not recovered.

Nov. 8, Thomas J. Vose, age 27, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Sergeant. Died at New York, May 10, 1862.

Oct. 28, Charles F. Winch, age 29, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Sergeant, and promoted to 1st Lieutenant. Slightly wounded at Fredericksburg, Va.

26, George W. Woods, age 25, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability; returned home and died of consumption.

Dec. 4, Menville Bowers, age 34, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Wounded Sept. 17, 1862, at Antietam, in side and thigh. Discharged Jan. 30, 1863.

11, Luther Starkey, age 24, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs.

George S. Clark, age 26, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability, March 23, 1862.

14, Wallace Scott, age 21, 6th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Drum Major, Jan. 1, 1864.

Oct. 1, Josiah P. Smith, age 21, 8th Reg., Co. B. 3 yrs. Killed in battle at Fort Hudson, La., June 14, 1863.

22, Jonathan L. Powers, age 44, 8th Reg., Co. D. Died in Camp Parapet, La., Oct. 20, 1862.

Aug. 15, 1862. Jeremiah Regan, age 25, 10th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. Wounded at Drury's Bluff, May 16, 1864; seriously, at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

9, Nathan D. Stoodley, age 39, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Captain, promoted to Major, Oct. 28, 1864. Slightly wounded at the siege of Suffolk.

Gustavus A. Forbush, age 30, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. 1st Lieutenant, promoted to Captain, May 5, 1863. Killed in storming Fort Harrison, Sept. 29, 1864.

Sept. 12, Person C. Cheney, age 34, 13th Reg. 3 yrs. Quarter Master. Discharged on account of sickness, Aug. 6, 1863.

Aug. 30, Mortier L. Morrison, age 26, 13th Reg. 3 yrs. Quarter Master's Sergeant, promoted to Quarter Master, Aug. 12, 1863.

12, Henry B. Wheeler, age 28, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Sergeant, and promoted to 2d Lieutenant, May 30, 1864. Wounded at Fort Harrison, Sept. 29, 1864.

13, Oliver H. Brown, age 34, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

12, Ira A. Spafford, age 37, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Accidentally wounded at Cold Harbor, Va.

John Bolio, age 21, 13th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs.

15, John Gafney, age 18, 10th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. Deserted at Washington, Sept. 28, 1862.

12, Edward Haskins, age 32, 10th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. Deserted at White House, Va., July 16, 1863.

13, John Kelly, age 21, 10th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. Wounded at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864.

12, Thomas Mulhern, age 28, 10th Reg., Co. F. Wounded at Cold Harbor.

Nathan C. Forbush, age 24, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.

13, Albert M. Smith, age 25, 13th Reg., Co. G. Promoted from Corporal to Sergeant.

20, Jeremiah D. Smith, age 20, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability, May 21, 1863.

18, Charles A. Ames, age 23, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Quarter Master's Sergeant; served as Clerk till promoted.

Aug. 18, Charles W. Bailey, age 20, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Ruptured at Fredericksburg, Va. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps.

12, John A. Bullard, age 38, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Detailed as Hospital Nurse and Clerk most of his term of enlistment.

13, Rodney M. Brackett, age 25, 13th Regt., Co. G. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability. Died at Peterborough.

Joseph A. Crosby, age 22, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Killed in storming Fort Harrison, Sept. 29, 1864.

12, Wallace Clark, age 18, 13th Reg., Co. G. Wounded slightly, Fort Harrison, Sept. 29, 1864.

Jacob Chamberlain, age 36, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., and died Nov. 4, 1863, of consumption.

18, Harrison Evans, age 26, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Quarter Master's Clerk and Store Keeper.

15, Eugene G. Farwell, age 29, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died at Hampton, June 12, 1864.

16, Rufus R. Frair, age 18, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

9, Henry N. Frair, age 28, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Killed in battle near Petersburg, Va., June 15, 1864.

12, Edmund S. Greenwood, age 42, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps.

13, Charles W. Gould, age 20, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

12, John J. B. F. Hardy, age 30, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

18, Herbert Lee, age 26, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died of diptheria, Aug. 31, 1863.

13, John Leathers, age 44, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died of small-pox, at City Point, Va.

12, Henry K. McClenning, age 20, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.

18, Robert M. McGilvray, age 18, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Wounded through both legs severely, June 1, 1864.

Aug. 18,	Daniel W. Osborne, age 22, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.
13,	Cortes S. Osborne, age 18, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died at Hampton, Va., Oct. 31, 1864.
7,	Andrew J. Robbins, age 26, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.
13,	John B. Stevens, age 30, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs.
15,	Samuel M. Woods, age 31, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Transferred to U. S. Navy, April 28, 1864.
12,	Mark A. Wilder, age 19, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Discharged for disability, Jan. 16, 1863.
	William H. H. Wilder, age 22, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Served as Quarter Master's Clerk.
Oct. 23,	Francis S. Piper, age 16, 16th Reg., Co. I. Died.
Sept. 9,	Leroy P. Greenwood, age 24, 1st Co., Sharpshooters, Co. E. 3 yrs. Discharged Dec. 19, 1862. Drafted Sept. 2, 1863, 14th Reg., Co. G.
Jan. 1,	J. Clinton McDuffie, age 21, 3d Co., N. H. Cavalry. 3 yrs.
Aug. 25,	Joseph Tatro, age 38, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Deserted while at Concord, May 2, 1863.
	Edward Bolio, age 18, 2d Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died June 16, 1864, of wounds in the thigh, at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864.
Jan. 6, 1863.	Alfonso E. Osborne, age 17, 3d Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Enlisted under the fictitious name of James Smith, being under age, so that his friends might not reclaim him.
	George A. Frost, age 17, 3d Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Enlisted under the fictitious name of George French, so his parents might not reclaim him from service.
Sept. 2,	David Burke, age 30, 7th Reg., Co. C. 3 yrs. Substitute for George E. Brackett.
	Patrick Glancey, age 21, 8th Reg., Co. H. 3 yrs. A substitute for Hiram McCoy. Deserted at New Orleans, La., July 11, 1864.
	Samuel Wiggins, age 20, 8th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Substitute for D. M. McClenning. Transferred to Navy, June 16, 1864.
	James Smith, age 20, 8th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs.

Sept. 2. Substitute for Joshua Richardson. Transferred to Navy, Jan. 18, 1864.

Oskar Rosenthal, age 21, 8th Reg., Co. K. 3 yrs. Substitute for Kendall C. Scott. Deserted at Franklin, La., Dec. 19, 1863.

William Mitchell, age 21, 8th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Substitute for Francis Cragin.

Thomas Worth, age 31, 8th Reg., Co. D. Substitute for D. Lovejoy. Deserted at Franklin, La., Dec. 20, 1863.

Alexander Mc'Lenan, age 18, 8th Reg. Substitute for Henry M. Breed.

Patrick Carney, age 20, 8th Reg., Co. K. Substitute for Samuel W. Vose. Deserted at Natchez, Miss., March 2, 1865.

Oct. 29, James Fox, age 19, 4th Reg., Co. A. 3 yrs. Substitute for Rodney M. Wilder.

Aug. 23, John P. Marsh, age 21. Heavy Artillery, Co. B.

Dec. 21, Charles D. French, age 33, 13th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. Drafted Sept. 2, 1863.

22, Frank S. Ritter, age 16, 9th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Musician. A hired recruit.

24, Richard Carr, age 22, 9th Reg., Co. D. 3 yrs. A prisoner of war; no discharge furnished. A hired recruit.

John Smith, age 19, 13th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. A hired recruit.

26, Frank Thurston, age 18, 9th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. A hired recruit.

Thomas Rigley, age 22, 9th Reg., Co. C. 3 yrs. Wounded Jan. 17, 1864. Deserted from hospital, Oct. 30, 1864. A hired recruit.

John Watters, age 22, 9th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Deserted at Annapolis, Md., Aug., 1864. A hired recruit.

Daniel W. Kennedy, age 19, 9th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Deserted, City Point, Va., August, 1864. A hired recruit.

William Russell, age 32, 9th Reg., Co. F. 3 yrs. A hired recruit. Absent from sickness. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. F.

Dec. 28, Peter Louis, age 18, 9th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. A hired recruit. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. G.

William A. Walker, age 18, 9th Reg., Co. E. 3 yrs. Wounded May 12, 1864. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. E. A hired recruit.

Jacob Jackson, age 30, 9th Reg., Co. D. 3 yrs. Died Sept. 10, 1864. A hired recruit.

Abraham Heran, age 19, 9th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. G. A hired recruit.

Peter Loran, age 19, 9th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. G., June 1, 1865. A hired recruit.

Robert Warner, age 35, 9th Reg. Deserted *en route* to regiment; probably a hired recruit.

Samuel Woods, age 25, 9th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Transferred to 6th Reg., Co. G. A hired recruit.

31, James Dinwidder, age 33, 6th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. Deserted at Annapolis, Md., April 3, 1864; probably a recruit.

John Glover, age 25, 1st New England Cavalry, Troop I. Captured at Winchester, Va., Aug. 17, 1864; probably a hired recruit.

William Culberson, age 22, 6th Reg., Co. I. 3 yrs. A hired recruit.

Jan. 1, 1864. George Wallace, age 28, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop D. Deserted *en route* to regiment; a hired recruit.

Aug. 5, William Loftis, 14th Reg., N. H. Infantry, Co. E. 3 yrs. Substitute for Edwin A. Towne.

6, John Higgins, 5th Reg., N. H. Infantry, Co. A. Substitute for George F. Livingston. Deserted at Alexandria, Va., June 5, 1865.

10, Don Negretta, age 40, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop G. 3 yrs. Substitute for Charles J. Smith.

5, James Conner, 14th Reg., Infantry, Co. C. 3 yrs. Substitute for Albert C. Frost.

6, William Mahoney, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. I. Substitute for Horace F. Whittemore.

12, James Bennett, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. B. Sub-

stitute for George Bruce. Deserted to the enemy, at Petersburg, Va., Oct. 11, 1864.

Aug. 15, George Hyatt, 5th Reg., Infantry. Substitute for William G. Livingston. Deserted *en route* to regiment.

Jacob Williams. Substitute for Richard H. Noone.

13, John Walker, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. I. Substitute for J. Frank Noone. Deserted at Petersburg, March 29, 1865.

10, John Welch, 5th Reg., Infantry. Substitute for John D. Holmes. Deserted *en route* to regiment.

Sept. 15, Hans Nelson, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. C. Substitute for Charles Barber.

9, Osburn Anderson, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. B. Substitute for Jones C. Dodge. Deserted, apprehended, and mustered out without pay, July 5, 1865.

David Walker. Substitute for Person C. Cheney.

7, John Farrel, 5th Reg., Infantry, Co. B. Substitute for Sampson Washburn. Deserted to enemy, near Petersburg, Dec. 12, 1864.

Wm. McCoy. Substitute for Henry B. Kimball.

27, Frank Clark, 8th Reg., Infantry, Co. G. Representative recruit for Thomas Little.

Charles H. Robinson. Representative recruit for Charles H. Brooks.

28, Charles H. Littlefield, 8th Reg., Infantry, Co. E. 1 yr. Representative recruit for George T. Wheeler.

Patrick Mullin. Representative recruit for Andrew C. Cochran.

30, George Adams, 14th Reg., Infantry. 1 yr. Representative recruit for Eli S. Hunt.

William Simpson, 14th Reg., Infantry. 1 yr. Representative recruit for Abraham P. Morrison.

Benjamin A. Moodey. Representative recruit for Albert Smith.

Aug. 9, George W. Cummings, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop G. 3 yrs. Promoted to 2d Lieutenant.

Aug. 19, Charles E. Lakeman, 13th Reg., Co. G. 3 yrs. Died March 10, 1865.

9, Daniel M. White, age 21, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop E. 3 yrs. Promoted to 2d Lieutenant.

16, Willis L. Ames, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop F. 3 yrs.

John Scott, age 19, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop G. Quarter Master's Sergeant. Accidentally wounded by a gun-shot in foot, Nov. 2, 1864.

19, Albert Mason, age 22, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, M. 3 yrs.

James B. Mooney, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery. 3 yrs.

Sept. 2, Lewis F. Cheney, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, C. 1 yr.

Frank A. Robbe, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, C. 1 yr.

Aug. 30, Charles M. Moore, age 18, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, E. 1 yr.

Sept. 26, Samuel S. Hardy, age 42, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, L. 1 yr.

Mar. 31, Ervin H. Smith, age 24, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop C. 3 yrs. Captured Nov. 12, 1864, at Cedar Creek. Confined in Libby Prison, Richmond, and Salisbury, N. C.; endured great sufferings in the above prisons.

30, Stilman Dunn, age 27, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop D. 3 yrs.

Allen R. Hood, age 22, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop B. 3 yrs.

Benjamin F. Whitcomb, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop B. 3 yrs.

Ambrose F. Upton, age 18, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop B. 3 yrs. Captured June 29, 1864. Died at Andersonville Prison, Ga., Oct. 7, 1864.

23, Wm. H. H. Pritchard, age 23, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop A. 3 yrs. Wounded on picket, July 18, 1864.

Henry Field, age 40, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop A. 3 yrs.

Mar. 23,	John P. Farmer, age 22, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop A. 3 yrs.
31,	William A. Huntress, age 36, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop E. 3 yrs. Wounded in leg. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, April 17, 1865.
19,	George E. Whitman, age 20, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop B. 3 yrs. Captured, and died at Andersonville Prison, March 6, 1865.
30,	William H. Drinker, age 19, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop B. 3 yrs. Wounded severely in Laurie Valley, Va., Sept. 22, 1864.
Feb. 15, 1865.	Charles Jewett, age 38, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, K. 1 yr.
Mar. 10,	George D. May, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, Troop K. 1 yr.
23,	Charles S. Gray, age 40, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop L. 1 yr.
	George B. Tilden, age 42, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop L. 1 yr.
	George N. Bailey, 1st N. H. Cavalry, Troop K. 1 yr.
Feb. 25,	Wells E. York, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, M. 1 yr.
14,	John C. Richardson, 8th N. H. Infantry, Co. A. 1 yr.
	W. H. H. Greenwood, 1st N. H. Heavy Artillery, M. 1 yr.
June 14, 1863.	John C. Swallow, Navy, 1st Class Boy. 1 yr.

Soldiers' Monument. — The soldiers' monument erected in Putnam Grove, Peterborough, consists of a bronze statue of a soldier, six feet seven inches high, standing in full dress, at rest upon his arms, upon a granite pedestal seven feet in height. The statue was designed by Martin Milmore, Esq., of Boston, and cast by the Ames Manufacturing Company, at Chicopee, Mass. The pedestal is of the Concord granite, and was designed at Chicopee, and wrought by D. C. Hutchinson, of Manchester. The statue and pedestal are so well

proportioned that the artistic effect of the whole is very pleasant and admirable. Upon the face of the granite pedestal, in front, is inserted a bronze memorial tablet, bearing the following inscription: —

THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

PETERBOROUGH SOLDIERS SACRIFICED.

Capt. Gustavus A. Forbush, 13th N. H. Regt.
Lieut. Timothy K. Ames, 6th N. H. Regt.
Lieut. Charles L. Fuller, 6th N. H. Regt.
Lieut. John M. Dodd, 6th N. H. Regt.

Charles O. Collister, 2d N. H. Regt.
Newman Hall, 2d N. H. Regt.
Edward Bolio, 2d N. H. Regt.
Frank E. Howe, 2d N. H. Regt.
George Wilding, 4th N. H. Regt.
Luther G. Crosby, 4th N. H. Regt.
German N. Breed, 5th N. H. Regt.
George N. Spaulding, 6th N. H. Regt.
George W. Hadley, 6th N. H. Regt.
William H. Wallace, 6th N. H. Regt.
Lucius H. Farwell, 6th N. H. Regt.
Cyrus Henry Farnum, 6th N. H. Regt.
Christopher M. Wheeler, 6th N. H. Regt.
David A. Cram, 6th N. H. Regt.
Alfred Perry, 6th N. H. Regt.
Philemon W. Cross, 6th N. H. Regt.
Charles H. Fay, 6th N. H. Regt.
Henry C. Taggart, 6th N. H. Regt.
Thomas J. Vose, 6th N. H. Regt.
George W. Wood, 6th N. H. Regt.
Josiah P. Smith, 8th N. H. Regt.
Jonathan L. Powers, 8th N. H. Regt.
Rodney M. Brackett, 13th N. H. Regt.
Joseph A. Crosby, 13th N. H. Regt.
Jacob Chamberlain, 13th N. H. Regt.
Charles E. Lakeman, 13th N. H. Regt.
Eugene G. Farwell, 13th N. H. Regt.
George J. Moore, 13th N. H. Regt.
Henry H. Frair, 13th N. H. Regt.
Herbert Lee, 13th N. H. Regt.
John Leathers, 13th N. H. Regt.
Cortes S. Osborne, 13th N. H. Regt.
Francis S. Piper, 16th N. H. Regt.
James L. Boyce, 16th N. H. Regt.
Ambrose F. Upton, 1st N. H. Cavalry.
Henry Moore, 11th Ill. Regt.
Joseph Clark, 2d Mass. Regt.
George M. Clark, 5th Conn. Regt.
John P. Cram, 15th Conn. Vol.

Drowned, by Sinking of Steamer on Potomac River:
Sophia, Wife of Lieut. Col. Charles Scott.
Katie, Wife of Capt. John A. Cummings.

The first steps taken to procure a soldiers' monument, in commemoration of those belonging to Peterborough who sacrificed their lives in the war of the Rebellion, were taken in the organization of a "Soldiers' and Sailors' Mutual Benefit Association." They elected a committee, April 4, 1866, to solicit funds for this purpose.

This committee held their first levee Dec. 25th, of the same year, and realized from its proceeds four hundred and eighty-one dollars and fifty-eight cents. Hon. P. C. Cheney, formerly of the 13th Regiment, generously added one hundred dollars to this auspicious beginning. The second levee was held Dec. 24, 1867, and three hundred and seventy dollars raised. A chowder-party, from West Peterborough, gave, as a surplus of a Fourth of July gathering, sixteen dollars and seventy-five cents. The town, at its annual March meeting in 1868, voted to raise the sum of one thousand dollars towards the monument, and chose a committee to act in connection with the soldiers' committee; *viz.*, Elijah M. Tubbs, Albert S. Scott, Charles H. Brooks, Albert Sawyer, Abraham P. Morrison, Charles Scott, Ervin H. Smith, James E. Saunders, John H. Cutler, Mortier L. Morrison. The third levee was held Feb. 26, 1869, and three hundred and eleven dollars and fifteen cents secured. The two "Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Societies," in dissolving their organizations, gave for the monument the unexpended money in their hands, amounting to thirty-five dollars. Miss Catharine Smith contributed ten dollars from an enterprise of hers. At the annual town meeting in March, 1870, the town voted six hundred and fifty-three dollars and forty-nine cents, to cancel the debt due for the monument. The several sums received were placed on interest, and the amount realized was one hundred and fifty-two dollars and ninety cents.

No part of the town appropriation was paid until the monument was completed.

The following is a financial report of the cost of the monument, with error of $60 in receipts, as per dedication pamphlet: —

Funds received.		*Expended.*	
Town of Peterborough,	$1,653 49	Foundation for Monument,	$14 25
Three Levees,	1,162 73	Pedestal,	525 00
Donation of P. C. Cheney,	100 00	Statue and Tablet,	3,277 50
Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Societies,	35 00	Freight,	9 50
Miss Catharine Smith,	10 00	Fence, removing stumps, &c., in Grove,	76 48
Chowder Party,	16 75	Contracting,	28 45
A Friend,	800 00	Incidentals,	59 69
Interest,	152 90		
Error?	60 00		
	$3,990 87		$3,990 87

The monument was erected in Putnam Grove, on Grove Street, late in the fall of 1869, so late that the joint committee of soldiers and citizens decided not to dedicate it until the following spring or summer. The tablet was inserted in May, 1870. During the spring the grove, as yet entirely in a state of nature, underwent great improvements; it was neatly fenced and enclosed, suitable entrances were constructed, the trees trimmed, the grounds smoothed and partially terraced, and otherwise greatly improved. The 17th of June, 1870, was selected as the day of dedication. The following were the officers of the day: Albert S. Scott, President; Charles H. Brooks, Albert Sawyer, E. H. Smith, Committee of Arrangements; Daniel M. White, Toast-master; Col. Charles Scott, Chief-marshall; Aids, Lieut. M. L. Morrison, Capt. James E. Saunders, and Col. S. I. Vose.

Gen. Aaron F. Stevens, of Nashua, delivered the oration; Maj. N. D. Stoodley, of Wakefield, Mass., the poem, and Dr. E. M. Tubbs, of Manchester, the annals.

The following persons responded to toasts on the occasion: Rev. George Dustan, Dr. George B. Twitchell, of Keene, Maj. John A. Cummings, of Boston, Lieut. Daniel G. Gould, Col. Henry D. Pierce, of Hillsborough, and Rev. A. M. Pendleton, of East Wilton.

CHAPTER XV.

PAUPERISM.

Few Paupers Early. — Increased by the Revolution. — Jean Culberson. — Warning out of Town. — Lydia Peram. — Widow Mary Swan. — Margaret Caldwell and New Boston. — A Cow Lent to Jona. Barnett. — Dr. Young Aided. — William Powers. — Selling Paupers at Auction. — Poor Let Out on Contract. — Purchase of a Town Farm.

PREVIOUS to the Revolution there were very few paupers. If there were any from the earliest settlement to the incorporation of the town, we suppose that they were provided for by the proprietors, though no record of such aid has come down to us. Between the incorporation and Revolution the town authorities were seldom called upon to afford aid to any individual, but at the close of the war there was a great increase of those who came to want, caused by loss of wages in the war and impoverishment from long service, and in many instances from their vices and habits contracted in the army. It was a perplexing subject to deal with, as well as a heavy burden on the early settlers.

We find by the town records that in 1763 Jean Culberson was the first person warned out of town, and was probably the first pauper after incorporation. The following was the form generally used for warning persons out of town: —

Province of }
New Hampshire. }

Decem^ber^ ye 23d 1763

To James Templeton Constable of this town of Peterborough in His Majesty's name, we command you forthwith warn Jean Cul-

berson now in this place forthwith to Depart out of this town, hereof fail not as you will answer the Contrary At yr Perill. Thomas Cunningham Alexr Robbe Hugh Gregg Selectmen &c.

December ye 24th 1763, according to the within request, I have Warned Jean Culberson forthwith to depart out of this town &c.

James Templeton Constable for the town of Peterborough &c.

This warning was to prevent individuals from gaining a residence; by which the town would be liable for their support if they should come to want. It was often carried to such an extent as, in many towns, to be practised indiscriminately upon all who came into town, so that often the best people of the settlement were warned out. It continued from 1760 to 1777, in which year occurs the last case on record.

It seems that the above process did not shake off Jean Culberson, as it was voted, in 1765, "That Jean Culberson should be maintained from house to house, as last year." After this, we hear nothing more of her. A Lydia Peram next appeared, who required a good deal of legislation in the town. An effort was made to induce Deacon Thomas Davison to support her, he having brought her into town, but I judge unsuccessfully, as the town in 1769 and 1772 voted money to her support and doctoring. She was probably sick, as the record speaks of her as being "under doctors," and probably soon after the last date deceased, as we hear nothing more of her. About this time [1773], it was "Voted that the selectmen should take care of Mrs. Braffy and her children." In 1782, widow Mary Swan turned up, and occasioned a good deal of trouble and expense, but was finally sold, as it is called in the warrant, to some relative, who obligated himself to support her during her natural life, for which the town was to pay thirty pounds.

The next case was that of Margaret Caldwell in 1785. It was voted in 1787 to move Margaret Caldwell, a town charge in Peterborough, to New Boston, "and that Jeremiah Smith should proceed in that way he thinks most regular, of moving said Margaret to New Boston, and likewise to recover the expense the said Margaret has been to the town of Peterborough." At a meeting Dec. 17, 1787, it was voted "To stop

process against the selectmen of New Boston respecting Margaret Caldwell, upon the condition that the selectmen of New Boston come with the present week and carry off the said Margaret Caldwell, and discharge the town of Peterborough forever hereafter for her maintenance." The selectmen of New Boston probably complied with the terms of this vote, as we hear no more of her.

In 1792, we find a vote "That the town pay the necessary expenses that arose upon the sickness, death, and funeral of Johnson, that lay sick and died at Richard Finch's in April, 1791." And in 1793, Richard Finch was allowed twenty shillings, in addition, for his trouble with Johnson in his last sickness. About this time, a vote was passed to lend a cow to Jonathan Barnett, till the town think proper to call for it. In 1796, the money for the poor was raised in the federal currency, and seventy dollars was raised for this year. The sum raised in the several succeeding years was constantly increasing till 1802, when it reached $170. We have already spoken of the kind and delicate manner in which Dr. Young was aided when dying with a cancer of the face, and have stated that in 1805 two cows were also voted for his use.

William Powers, who first introduced cloth-dressing and wool-carding into town, became poor, gave up his place to the town, and was many years, from 1801 to 1817, supported by the same. The town carried on his farm for a time, and the work was let out at public vendue, when, among many other things, the getting of ten cords of wood was taken by William Wilson, at ninety-three cents a cord.

The sums raised for the support of the poor varied from one to two hundred dollars up to the year 1815, when four hundred dollars was raised, and ever after the sums raised were rarely below this amount.

About this time, a new plan of selling the paupers at public auction for a year was instituted; and in 1816 we find that William Powers was bid off at one dollar and fifty-eight cents per week, and Benjamin Alld at ninety-six cents per week, and again in 1817 William Powers was struck off at one dollar and sixty-nine cents per week, which is the last we hear of him on the town records.

At these auctions, the peculiar qualities of each individual were described by the auctioneer, pretty much as he would speak of the qualities of any other live-stock offered for sale. We have a distinct recollection of the vendue of one of the paupers, who was subject to epilepsy, but well most of the time. Auctioneer, "Here is Mr. ——; he is a strong, hearty, sound man, who can eat anything, and a good deal of it; how much do you bid?"

This mode was continued till 1831, when the town authorized the selectmen to contract with some individual for the support of the poor for three years, or a shorter time, as best to be obtained. Mr. Thomas Upton was the first contractor, and took them all to his farm, and continued to support them till 1836 or '7.

Before this experiment in supporting the poor was tried — when their year's residence was determined at a public vendue, — they were often treated very harshly, if not cruelly, for they fell into hands unable from disposition or circumstances to take proper care of them, but were induced to bid them off for the small sums of ready money paid for their support. The custom of selling the poor annually, both men and women, at public auction, like cattle or slaves, at length became abhorrent to the public sentiment, and a better and more humane method was sought. It was a practice that had obtained in all the neighboring towns as well as this; and in some of them this base thing was done in a still baser way.* Liquors, as at all other auctions, were furnished at the public expense in some places when the auction came off, but never, as we think, here, and under its influence, the poor creatures were bid off by those who had neither ability nor convenience to accommodate them, and at prices, too, not at all remunerative. The consequence was that the poor creature was made to suffer, and to wear out the weary year as he could, — a burden, a nuisance, and a great loss, too, to his supporter. It was bad enough to be poor, but to be punished for it, by being treated worse than we treat our dumb animals, was cruel and unjust

* History of Dublin, pp. 26, 27.

in the extreme. The poor who asked for aid were those, generally, past labor. They were old, broken-down in constitution by disease or their own vices, and were the most unfit inmates for any family; and we do not wonder that many who undertook to support them were disappointed, and could hardly extend to them any kind treatment, they were so repulsive and disagreeable in their habits and conduct. It is a class always difficult to please, and one that, with its poverty, seems to possess so large a share of the vices and corruptions of our nature as to be incapable of appreciating good and kind usage.

In 1836, a committee consisting of John H. Steele, Henry T. Cogswell, and Thomas Upton were chosen to inquire into the success of those towns which had begun to support their poor upon a town farm, and to report. The committee, satisfied with the experiment as witnessed in other towns, reported that it is expedient to purchase a farm. John H. Steele, Isaac Edes, and William Scott were chosen a committee to buy. Various farms in town were examined, *viz.:* Thomas Upton's, Jonathan Holmes' (the Deacon Holmes place), Adam Penniman's, Watson Washburn's, and John S. White's. The committee reported, 1837, in favor of Jonathan Holmes' farm, which was bought, and the town voted to adopt the system of keeping their poor on the farm purchased for this purpose.

The town "Voted, that the agents authorized to receive the surplus revenue appropriate so much of the money as to take up the note given to Jonathan Holmes."

And also to appropriate of their money the necessary expenses in relation to the poor farm, for stock, tools, and necessary expenses of the present year.

The poor have ever since been supported on the farm, it proving a very successful and economical measure for the town. The new poor laws, however, have so changed the terms of settlement, and thereby so reduced the number of paupers to be supported, that many towns have already abandoned or are abandoning the system, finding it too expensive to keep up such establishments for only two or three inmates. The great majority of the poor are now supported at the county poor farms.

CHAPTER XVI.

HIGHWAYS.

Legislation on Roads in Town Meeting. — Roads Poor before Incorporation. — A Road Cut and Cleared by Proprietors from Meeting-House to New Ipswich in 1738. — Object of Incorporation to Improve the Roads. — The Roads in Town.

On the subject of roads there was no doubt in all the New England towns a vast amount of legislation. The records are full of the petitions and votes to lay out and build new roads, the raising of money for the same, the various manœuvres for delay, for reconsideration, etc., and no little litigation has been incurred, occasionally, by individuals not satisfied with the awards of town authorities.

Before the incorporation of the town in 1760, we know very little about the roads, but suppose that they were little else than mere bridle-paths, the way only cleared of trees, with little or no attempt to smooth or work them. They were merely passable for horses, and perhaps an ox-cart could with much "geeing and hawing" get over them, laden with the families of the early settlers, and such necessary implements of household furniture as were indispensable.

The following vote was passed at an adjourned meeting of the proprietors held at Alexander Cochran's, at the "Three Horse Shoes," Boston, Dec. 4, 1738, *viz.:* "Voted, that the former committee (*viz.*, John Hill, Jeremiah Gridley, John Fowle, Jr., Jonathan Prescott, and Peter Prescott, or any three of them) be, and hereby are, empowered to agree with some suitable person, to cut and clear a good way or road from New

Ipswich to the meeting-house lot in said township, as soon as may be."

All the roads, such as they were, previous to the act of Incorporation, were either made by the proprietors, or by individual enterprise, for the petition for the act says "that we cannot hold any proprietors' meetings at all, to pass any vote or votes that will be sufficient to oblige any person to do any part towards supporting the Gospel, building a meeting-house and bridges, clearing and repairing roads, and all which would not only be beneficial to us settlers to have it in our power to do, but a great benefit to people travelling to Connecticut River and those towns settling beyond us." An *addendum* to the petition reads as follows: "Your Petitioners beg leave to add, as a matter of considerable importance, that the only road from Portsmouth through this province to 'number four' is through said township of Peterborough, and which makes it more necessary to repair said road within said township, and to make many bridges, which they cannot do, unless incorporated and enabled to raise taxes," etc.

We have, as briefly as we could and make them intelligible, traced out on the town records the transcript of all the roads of the town from the time of its incorporation, only omitting the many short pieces of road built especially for the accommodation of individuals. The roads will be described nearly in the order of dates.

Road from the middle of the town to Hugh Wilson, Esq.'s, Nov. ye 11th, 1760, beginning about twenty rods north of William Robbe's, from the middle or great road. This is the old road leading from the Gordon corner, by the Dunbar place and past the house of Gen. David Steele, over the brook (Bogle) to widow James Parker's, and thence to the mills (Russell's) near which Hugh Wilson lived.

A road from the intersection of this road near David Blanchard's to where Robert Morison now lives, the Maj. Samuel Gregg place. Width of road, two and one-half rods.

A road leading from ye meeting-house to the great bridge, to a road near great bridge, leading to south part of the town. This is the old road, long since discontinued, that went to

meeting-house east of the Follansbee house on side of hill, Nov. ye 11th, 1760.

Road from the street to the mountain. It passes about east of the house of James Robbe (supposed to be where Charles F. Bruce now lives) then east to the foot of the mountain, and then by marked trees to town line,— supposed to be the road over the mountain to Temple, Nov. ye 18th, 1760.

A road from the grist-mill (site of the first Peterborough cotton factory) to John Smith's and Turner's, Nov. ye 18th, 1760.

Begins at grist-mill, thence over the bridge by Samuel Mitchell's door, a little to the westward of south to the top of the hill (by A. Frost's house), thence along the road, now cleared and improved, by the south end of John Smith's house, thence to where it branches, the one part leading along by house of Moses Morison and east side of John Morison's house to the westerly end of Halbert Morison's house, the other branch leading along the road, now cleared and improved, to Thomas Davison's and Turner's, and thence to town line west of Turner's barn.

A road from the south line of town (Spalding's Corner) to grist-mill, Dec. ye 17th, 1760.

Beginning at the south line of the town, on the east end of William McNee's lot, thence north along the east end of John Taggart's (the Shedd place), and across the land whereon William Richey now lives; then across land belonging to John and Moses Morison, and land belonging to Lieut. Thomas Morison, near to the place "where clay hath been dugg." Then it branches, the one part leading to his house (Thomas Morison's) and from thence to his saw-mill, "all on the place where it is now cleared and improved"; the other leading about north, and crossing land of Morison to old road and to a small brook (Cold Brook), and thence to a larger brook (Wallace Brook) on north line of said Morison's land, and thence to John White's house, thence till it comes to a small brook near Marshall Nay's, a little below the old ford, thence north to the old road formerly improved, thence along the old road over the

great bridge, and thence to the grist-mill. Said road to be two and one-half rods wide.

A south road along the Main Street to the meeting-house. The Street Road, so called, Dec. ye 17th, 1760.

Beginning at a bridge over the brook on the south line of this town (Town Line Brook), on land belonging to Jane McKay, and from thence on land of the same to Margaret Stewart's lot, and land of William Smith, John Scott, Robert Wilson, William Mitchell, and William Scott, on the old road as now cleared and improved. Said road to be as wide as originally allowed in the laying out of the same.

A road from meeting-house to Hugh Gregg's (Deacon Christopher Thayer's), and from thence over the river to John Ferguson's (supposed to be west of Col. Norton Hunt's house), Dec. ye 17th, 1760.

A continuation of Main Street or Street Road. Beginning at the meeting-house, thence about north-east by land of William Robbe and west end of Samuel Stinson's land opposite his house, thence north on the east end of said Robbe's land, along the old road, as it is now cleared and improved, until it comes a little to the south of Hugh Gregg's house, and from thence keeping a straight line to a great rock that is in the line of John Ferguson's land, then leaving it to the discretion of the surveyors to lead down as near the Island Brook as the land will admit, to the bridge-place, or ford, by a great rock that stands in the river, and across the river by that rock, then turning up the river on the north side, and keeping as near the river as good land will admit of for making a road, until it comes into the Main Street again (the old road crossed the river about thirty-five rods above Col. Hunt's). Said road is to be five rods wide (the road which this superseded, from Samuel Stinson's, or the John Little place, was discontinued Aug. 27, 1798, and the land sold to Samuel Smith).

A road from School-house No. 2 (South Factory) to Alexander Robbe's or Samuel Adams'. Beginning at the crotch of the road that leads to John Smith's, and follows the old road, now occupied, to Alexander Robbe's. To be two

and one-half rods wide, Oct. ye 1st, 1761. Transcript of said road recorded Sept. y^e ——, 1772.

A road from Samuel Mitchell's to Samuel Moore's. From near G. P. Felt's manufactories to Orrin Smith's in Windy Row, Oct. ye 1st, 1761. Beginning at the east end of Samuel Mitchell's house, from thence to a stake and stones, it being Mr. Gridley's south-east corner of his farm, from thence to Samuel Moore's, as the road is now occupied, it being discretionally left with the first surveyor to alter the same at any particular "pleace," for the benefit of the road, not exceeding two rods. Said road to be two rods wide.

A road from Alexander Robbe's to Dublin line, Sept. ye 26, 1763. This road is laid out in a westerly direction from Alexander Robbe's house, by marked trees, to Dublin line. To be two and one-half rods wide.

A road from Samuel Todd's to Peterborough north line, June ye 14th, 1764. To accommodate the settlers in "New Limbrick." Beginning where the old road now leaves Samuel Todd's east line of his lot, and thence leads northerly to the town line, part on the aforesaid Samuel Todd's east line, and part on the lots east thereof, and from thence to the aforesaid Peterborough north line, to a rock-maple tree marked with the letter H. To be two and one-half rods wide.

A road from Capt. Thomas Morison's to "Middleton" line, laid out from Capt. Thomas Morison's over the new bridge westward, as the road has been improved, by John Smith's house, through his land to Thomas Davison's, and from thence between said Davison's and Thomas Turner's land, as said road has been improved, and so to the town line beyond said Turner's barn, Aug. ye 13th, 1768. The width of above road fixed at two rods by selectmen, Oct. 22d, 1785.

A road from the great bridge (north factory) to the northwest corner of Henry Ferguson's land, to the road that is already laid out from Charles Stuart's to the mills, July ye 4th, 1768

A road from Matthew Templeton's (Caleb Wilder's) running easterly, as the road is now cleared, to the east line, or common

land, towards Lyndeboro. Said road to be two rods wide, Jan. ye 6th, 1773.

A road from Peterborough to Temple, beginning on land between John Blair's and James Cuningham's, and running east, as the road is now laid out and cleared, thence by the north side of the pond until it strikes lot No. 13, and thence between lots No. 13 and 14, to the lot now improved by Moses Cuningham. Width, two rods, Dec. 29, 1773.

A road from Charles Stuart's (or Faxon place) to Peterborough north line. Beginning at Charles Stuart's house, running north by marked trees, as near to the ridge hill as the land will admit of, and by land of Robert Swan and others, and thence to the Peterborough north line. Width, two and one-half rods, June ye 16th, 1780.

A road from John Mitchell's causeway to Thomas Morison's bridge, over "pine hill." Beginning at the west end of the great bridge west of Capt. Thomas Morison's house, and thence northerly, upon the line between said Morison's and John Smith's land, to the foot of the pine hill, so called, and from thence east of north through Capt. Thomas Morison's land to John White, Jr.'s, land, and to said White's house, and from thence northerly through said White's and John Mitchell's land, to the east end of the causeway upon the road leading from Alexander Robbe's house to John Mitchell's house. Width, two and one-half rods, Sept. 10, 1781.

A road from north bridge (north factory) to Thomas Steele's farm. It begins at the north end of said bridge, and runs easterly to William Swan's, and thence by land of Samuel Jackson and said Swan till it strikes Thomas Steele's south line, to the westerly side of a beach stump. Width, two rods, Aug. 10, 1786.

A road from William Miller's to the town line, Greenfield. It begins on a line between William Miller's and James Miller's, and runs one hundred rods on said line, thence through William Miller's land to his east line, thence through widow Miller's land, the same point of compass, to a bridge now built, then runs north of east on David Hovey's land, thence east-

ward south of said Hovey's house, then east and through Richard Hovey's land to lot No. 15, and then between lots No. 15 and 16 to the town line. Width, two rods, June 14, 1787.

A road from Thomas Morison's to Joseph Miller's in Sharon, or Sharon line. Beginning at the south-west corner of Jonathan Smith's pine field on the old road to Peterborough line by the Richey place, through land of James Richey and Daniel Gray to Samuel Morison's house, and thence on same course across said Morison's land and a corner of John Smith's (Stuart place), to John Gray's north line, and thence on said line to middle of said Gray's lot, thence southerly to Sharon line. Width, two and one-half rods, Oct. 28, 1793.

A road from William Moore's (Deacon N. H. Moore) to Jaffrey line. Beginning to the west of said Moore's barn, and running west on a line betwixt said Moore's and Robert Smith's land till it strikes Thomas Turner's land, and thence on said land to Jaffrey line. Width, three rods, Oct. 28, 1793.

A road from William Smith's to Samuel Morison's. Beginning at the said Smith's gate, past the south side of his house and barn, down through his field to his pasture, and near an old brick-yard into the old road. Width, two rods, Dec. 25, 1794. Discontinued in 1814.

A road from Oliver Carter's to old meeting-house. April 7, 1801, one hundred dollars awarded as damages to Oliver Carter or William Scott for the above road, and one hundred dollars to be awarded to the same next year, to be in full for land and fencing.

A road from Jonathan Faxon's to James Smith's, Windy Row, beginning at the east corner of Jonathan Faxon's field west of road that leads to Hancock, and running, on the road now occupied, south of Alexander Scott's house, to the west road that leads to Hancock. Width, two and one-half rods, Dec. 13, 1810. The road yet open, but not kept in repair.

A road from Capt. William Wilson's place due west to intersect the Dublin road near Warren Nichols'. This road was laid out by a court's committee in 1809, to be completed in eighteen months from Dec. 1, 1809. Extending from War-

ren Nichols' house to Contoocook River and across the river, by the house of the late Robert White's place, to the intersection of the roads near the Capt. Wilson house.

A road from Thomas Steele's to Hancock line, over the Ballard hill, beginning at said Steele's south line, at the road formerly laid out through Hunt's farm, thence north to William Stuart's land, and past the west end of his buildings, to James Gregg's south-west corner on his line near the river, thence across the brook, thence as near the river as the land will admit till the river turns to the right, thence to Antony Bullard's south-west corner, thence to William Bullard's house, then, as it is now travelled, past Abraham Moore's house, and through his land to Mr. Dennis' wall, within ten rods of Hancock line, then, bearing to the left, supposed to be Hancock line. Width, three rods, Nov. 8, 1811.

A road from Bartholomew Thayer's (John Little place) to the great bridge. No transcript can be found of this road but this vote of the town, March 5, 1799: "Voted, that the selectmen lay out a road from Bartholomew Thayer's over the hill to the great bridge, and cause it to be made in the place where it has been proposed." The road was built, and there was much legislation in town in regard to damages to Mrs. Morrison, supposed widow of Rev. John Morrison, who owned land. Road discontinued.

A road from bridge near Reuel Richardson's, or Spring's bridge, so called, to Dublin, near to where the line between Peterborough and Dublin crosses said road, thence north, bounding on Dublin line, through land of Abijah Richardson till it intersects the road, as now travelled, from John Richardson's past Abijah Richardson's to Dublin meeting-house. Width, two and one-half rods. To be opened one year from date, Oct. 1, 1816.

A road from Stephen Pierce's (the Jewett place) through West Peterborough, across the river, south to the old road from Peterborough to Dublin. Width, three rods, Sept. 20, 1823. The road to be opened for travel, June 1, 1824.—*Town Records, Vol. 2, p.* 51.

A road from great bridge to Presbyterian Meeting-house at Gordon's Corner. Beginning at the east end of the great bridge, near the house of Samuel Smith, Esq., thence north on said Smith's land twenty-four and a half degrees, ninety-eight rods, thence on land of said Smith till it strikes land of Capt. Moses Dodge and land of Rev. Elijah Dunbar, in front of the Presbyterian Meeting-house. The said road to be opened and made passable on or before the first day of November next, July 1, 1824.—*T. R., Vol.* 2, *p.* 81.

A road from north-east corner of Asa Carley's land, near Abel Weston's house, to the Street Road, near Deacon Samuel Maynard's house. Said road to be opened and made passable on or before Nov. 1, 1828. Width, two and one-half rods, March 1, 1827.—*T. R., Vol.* 2, *p.* 86.

A road from South Factory to Smith's Village. Beginning at the south-west corner of Capt. Henry F. Cogswell's land, thence running east forty-three degrees, north seventeen rods, on said Cogswell's land, to land owned by the second Peterborough cotton factory corporation, thence by the land of said corporation and Samuel Morison, and land of Robert White, to land of James Wilson, in various points of compass, till it reaches Goose Brook, to land of Samuel Smith and land of the Phœnix factory corporation to the road near the tavern house, now occupied by Charles Whitney (the site of the Town House). This road to be opened and made passable on or before Nov. 1, 1827. Width, three rods, July 1, 1826.—*T. R., Vol.* 2, *p.* 88.

A road to Greenfield by Holmes' mill. Beginning on the east side of the road between Asaph Evans' and David Wilson's, fifty rods west and twelve degrees south of Calvin Washburn's, thence on land of Calvin Washburn, John Steele, Mary Dickey, Samuel Straw, Jonathan Cudworth, to Greenfield line. Width, three rods, ——, 1828.—*T. R., Vol.* 2, *p.* 100.

A road from the paper-mill of Morrison, Hoit & Blodgett to the village. Beginning at the turn of the road west of the paper-mill, thence east three degrees, south twenty rods, to

within half a rod from the north end of the paper-mill, thence on land of Isaac Hadley, William Scott, Jacob Flint, George W. Senter, and Samuel Holmes, in various points of compass, to the Priest house (the old Evans tavern house). Width, three rods, June 20, 1832. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 134.

Widening and straightening the road in village, from Brown's store or the stone bridge to Bernard Whittemore's, east and opposite upper hotel. Beginning two rods north of the north bounds between Moses Chapman's and Phœnix corporation, thence east five degrees, south sixteen rods, across the bridge, thence from first-mentioned bound west nineteen degrees, north thirty rods, the point being forty-seven feet south of Riley Goodridge's store, the width of the point to be three and a half rods wide, thence west fifteen degrees, north fifteen rods, the width of which is three rods, thence west twenty degrees, north five rods, thence west thirty degrees, north seven rods, the width of which, to last points, to be two and a half rods wide, March 6th, 1834. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 156.

Diamond road. Beginning at a stake in the bars on the south side of the road leading from the Street Road to the East Mountain Road, and about twelve rods easterly of the bridge, and running to a stake standing on the line, being the north line of said Diamond's land, and the south line of Asa Carley's land. Width, two rods, Sept. 11, 1835. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 174.

Alteration of road round Capt. Alexander Robbe's hill, running south of his house, and laid out by the County Commissioners. At a town meeting, March 10, 1840, voted to raise four hundred dollars for the purpose of building the above road. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 242.

Alteration of road over the mountain from the woods east of Samuel White's to the Richey house.

April 5, 1836, "Voted, That the selectmen be authorized and directed to lay out the road beginning at east side of the woods east of Samuel White's, from thence up the mountain until it intersects the old road near the Richey house, and cause the same to be built the present year." — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 183.

A road to North Factory from the village. Beginning at the centre of the small stone bridge north of the village cemetery, thence north sixteen degrees, east twenty-two rods, and, by various points of compass, on land of William Follansbee, Guy Hannaford, Ethan Hadley, Elihu Thayer, Timothy and Norton Hunt, Archelaus Cragin, and Robert Day, to old road between Timothy Ames' and Samuel C. Oliver's house, on the east side of the small bridge, Feb. 16, 1835. Width, three rods. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 463.

The widening and straightening the road, laid out by a court's committee, round the Wilson hill, so called. Beginning at a stake easterly of Capt. William Wilson's, thence on his land till it strikes the old road near Locke's bars, so called. Width, four rods, June 24, 1839. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 284.

A road from William Pratt's to School-house No. 10. Beginning at the corner of the wall near William Pratt's, thence north thirty-three degrees, west fourteen rods, and, by various points of compass, to the old road near the School-house No. 10. Width, three rods, May 25, 1843. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 284.

A road from Eri Spalding's to Cyrus Blanchard's (called slab road). Beginning at a stump on highway at Bowers' mill, so called, and running to the old road near School-house No. 6. To avoid the "mill hill," so called, Aug. 26, 1843. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 290.

A road from Eri Spalding's to brick-yard near North Factory. Laid out by the Road Commissioners for County of Hillsborough. Beginning at a point in the old road, at a stake on Eri Spalding's land, thence south forty-one degrees, west, and by various points of compass, through land of William M. White, Watson Washburn, the Swan farm, so called, Carter and White's land, Elihu Thayer's, to a point on the old road opposite to Carter's brick-yard, so called. Width, three rods, Aug. 27, 1844. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 301.

A road from Nahor's to Hancock line, laid out by the County Commissioners, Apr. 8, 1817. In town meeting, "Chose a committee to view the land the road was laid out on, and report to the town the probable expense of making the road,

and the probability of getting rid of making said road, if contested." No report of said committee is found, but three hundred dollars is raised for the Hancock road, April 7, 1818. April 6, 1819, the further sum of five hundred and eighty dollars was raised to pay damages on Hancock road and build it. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 13.

A road to School-house No. 1, in village. Beginning at a stake on the east side of the road leading from the village to the South Factory, near Brockway's store (now W. G. Livingston's), said stake being in the middle of the road ; thence south sixty-six degrees, east and continued thirteen rods and twenty-one links to a stake and stones in the wall near the south-east corner of the Phœnix garden. Width, eighteen and a half feet. By another transcript, March 31, 1846, the road is laid out two rods wide, June 26, 1845. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 317.

A road from Main Street to Joseph H. Ames'. Beginning from a stake on the north side of the road leading through the village, forty-four feet east from the south-east corner of the yard in front of the Unitarian meeting-house, thence north three degrees, east eight rods eleven links, and in a northerly direction to a stake in the old pass-way of Joseph H. Ames' house, passing through land of Job Hill and others, the same to be three rods wide, May 22d, 1847 ; by a special vote of the town, passed March 30, 1847. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 350.

A road from Reuel Richardson's to West Peterborough. Laid out by the Road Commissioners, and damages awarded as follows : Union Manufacturing Co., $107.50 ; Frederick Livingston, $75.00 ; Ivory Wilder, $128.60 ; Reuel Richardson, $90.00 ; Charles R. Richardson, $145.00, Dec. 10, 1850. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 384.

A transcript is also found on the Town Records, p. 398, of a road from Reuel Richardson's to land of Reuel Richardson, through land of C. D. Richardson, and damages awarded to him of $185.00, a supposed amendment of the road as laid out by the County Commissioners, Dec. 10, 1850, being all merged in one, Sept. 10, 1851.

A road from Benjamin Hosmer's (the Robert Swan place) to

where it intersects the old road near where the School-house No. 5 stood. Width, three rods, Nov. 19, 1851. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 403.

A road from Eri Spalding's to Greenfield line, laid out by the County Commissioners, March 13, 1855. In town meeting, "Voted, That the selectmen be authorized and instructed to borrow money to pay damages, and build the road laid out by the Commissioners from Eri Spalding's to the Greenfield line, if necessary." — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 443.

A road from Mitchell's Corner to near the house of Joseph H. Ames. Beginning at a stake in the highway at the foot of Mitchell's hill, so called, thence easterly and southerly trhough land of Norton Hunt and others, to the present highway, east of J. H. Ames' dwelling-house. The highway to be three rods wide for the first seventy-six rods, and for the next two hundred and eleven rods it is to be four rods wide, the remainder of the road to be three rods wide, April 8, 1855. — *T. R., Vol. 2, p.* 445.

A road from bridge near Barker's Mills to Sharon line. No transcript found; supposed laid out by a court's committee. The following article is found in a warrant for town-meeting, March 8, 1842 (T. R., Vol. 2, p. 268): "To hear the report of same committee, on the petition of Samuel Nay and others for a new road, commencing at the Jaffrey Road (so called), and extending to the Sharon line, and act thereon." "Voted [p. 272], that the petition of Samuel Nay and others be accepted; also voted at the same meeting to raise $450 for the Sharon Road."

A road from Spalding's Corner (so called) to the intersection of the road with that leading from Barker's Mills to Sharon line, not far from the bridge; said road laid out by the commissioners, after a public hearing, Aug. 10, 1859; probably built in 1860.

A road from Gulf Road, near Nathan Gould's, to where it intersects the old road leading from Timothy Hovey's to James Smiley's. Width, two and one-half rods; transcript, Oct. 3, 1859.—*T. R., Vol. 3, p.* 86.

A road from South Factory to Jaffrey line. It was vendued to various persons, Nov. 16, 1840, to the amount of $1,688.93.

Granite Street, beginning at the intersection of the road leading from bridge near Monadnock Railroad to N. H. Morison, Esq.'s; by first transcript, Nov. 30, 1868, to Amzi Mayo's house; by second transcript, Sept. 20, 1870, to Samuel Knight's house; by third transcript, Nov. 14, 1871, from Samuel Knight's house to Pine Street. The road built and made passable in 1872. Width, two and one-half rods.

A road to School-house No. 1, from Main Street, between Baptist Meeting-house and Asa Davis' store; transcript, Dec. 23, 1863. Width, three rods.

CHAPTER XVII.

MANUFACTURES.

Bell Factory. — Phœnix. — Eagle. — South. — North. — Union Manufacturing Co. — Paper Manufacture. — Woollen Manufacture. — Peg Mill. — Stone Grist-Mill. — Basket Shop. — Manufacture of Barometers and Thermometers. — Manufacture of Hand-Cards for Cotton and Wool. — Machine Shop and Foundry. — Marble and Granite Works. — Briggs' Manufactory of Portable and Patent Piano-Stools.

Bell Factory. — The first Peterborough cotton factory, known as the "Old" or "Bell" Factory, called the "old" from its being the first incorporated factory in town, and the "bell" from the circumstance of having introduced the first bell ever used in town, was erected in 1809, '10. It stands on the spot on which the first saw and grist mill was built in town, in 1751, on the north side of the Nubanusit River, at the head of a small fall of the same in the Centre Village. The privilege and lands connected with the same were purchased of Asaph Evans, Jan. 2, 1809. It was incorporated Dec. 20, 1808.

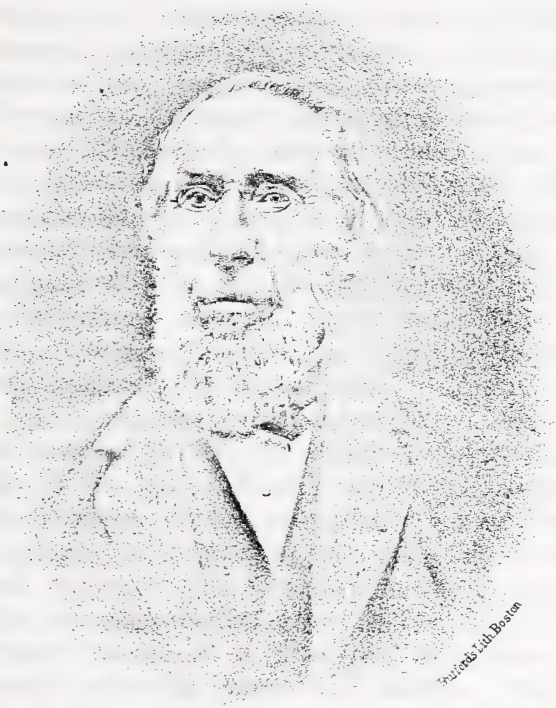
The first proprietors were as follows: Charles H. Atherton, Joseph Cushing, David Holmes, Frederick French, Samuel Bell, Edmund Parker, of Amherst; and John Smith, Samuel Smith, Jonathan Smith, John Steele, John Scott, Asaph Evans, Samuel Evans, John Field, George Duncan, Daniel Robbe, William Pettes, William Wilson, Edmund Snow, Nathan Scott, Hugh Miller, Nathaniel Morison, James Ferguson, Samuel Alld, Nathaniel Holmes, Matthew Templeton, of Peterborough. The stock was divided into one hundred shares, one-half of it owned in Peterborough, the other half in

Amherst. The first assessment of $3,500 was made in 1809; and in 1810 $10,000 was assessed, and four dwellings for boarding-houses, thirty by twenty feet, were built on the south side of the river opposite to the factory.

The first machinery of this mill was constructed at Peterborough under the charge of John Field, of Pawtucket, R. I., known here then, by the importance of his trust as Judge Field. He was one of the workmen employed by Samuel Slater in the erection of the first cotton factory in the United States. Mr. Field was considered one of the best workmen known; and the company gave him what was then called extravagant wages, three dollars per day, and in addition kept his horse, and furnished him with half a pint of rum a day! Mr. Field built his machinery the exact pattern and type of that in Pawtucket, for which he brought models and exact measurements with him. It was even better than its pattern, and did good service for many years. The Phœnix Factory, built by Samuel Smith, was an exact imitation and reproduction of the first factory.

The machinery of the Bell Factory was put into operation in 1810; the first cotton was purchased by John Smith, Esq., at thirty-two and one-half cents per pound; in 1815 the average cost of cotton was twenty-six and one-half cents per pound; and the highest price paid was, in 1816, forty-one cents per pound. At first the yarn was divided among the proprietors; and at one time, by a vote, the distribution was made every week. The cost of the cotton, and the expenses of manufacturing, must have been met by assessments. During 1812 the yarn was sold at the factory prices, which were increased in 1814 seven cents on a pound of yarn up to No. 15, and five cents above that number. After the close of the war of 1812 there was a great depression in the value of yarn, and it was sold at a discount of twenty-five, fifty, and even seventy-five *per cent.* from factory prices.

In April, 1817, an addition of a brick building was made to the factory, and looms added to the establishment under the superintendence of John H. Steele, and the first cotton cloth woven by water-power in New Hampshire was manufactured in this mill in May, 1818.



Jonas Livingston

Mr. Steele had serious difficulties to encounter from a want of experience, with no aid from those who had already begun to weave by water-power. The irregular speed of the mill, no regulator as yet being invented, the newness and the breaking in of new machinery, were serious difficulties; and he says: "Never did I more sensibly feel the truth of the saying that patience and perseverance will accomplish all things, than I did in setting that loom in motion. My future prospects depended on my success; and accordingly all the patience and perseverance I could command were exerted. Three days, the longest and most toilsome I ever spent, were consumed before the purpose intended was accomplished." The difficulties of the undertaking are well expressed by the anecdote that Mr. Steele used often to tell, of the boy whose curiosity attracted him to the scene of action. Being unable to make out what was going on, he asked his sister, who was in attendance, what Mr. Steele was doing. "Why?" said she. "Because," said the boy, "it sometimes looks like cloth, and sometimes like the harness."

Mr. Steele remained in charge of this mill till 1824, when he resigned to take the superintendence of the building of the Union Mill in West Peterborough. It was then under the direction of various agents till purchased in part by Frederick Livingston in 18—, who superintended it till he sold out, in 1865, to Ammidown Lane & Co., of New York City, who are now the owners of the same. After they purchased the mill, it underwent an enlargement and thorough repair under their agent, A. J. Aldrich. It is now leased by E. B. Hill, for the manufacture of "curtain hollands," who employs between eighty and ninety hands, and has a monthly pay-roll of $2,000.

Phœnix Factory.—This factory stands on the site of the large building of two hundred feet in length and two stories high, erected by Samuel Smith, in 1793, '94, situated in the Centre Village, on the Nubanusit, some thirty rods above its junction with the Contoocook River. The water that drives this mill is used for various purposes of manufacture on its

passage to the Contoocook, at the west butment of the stone bridge. In 1812 the north part of this building was converted into a cotton factory by Samuel Smith, and put in operation in 1813 or '14, under the direction of his son, Frederick A. Smith; and was changed to weaving, under the direction of John and Robert Annan, in 1822; and sold to Samuel May and others in 1823. The new company was organized this year, held their first meeting in Boston, and divided their stock into thirty-two shares, which were owned by D. D. Rogers, Samuel Smith, Samuel Appleton, Pickering & Nichols, Samuel May, Samuel Greele, Isaac Parker, Sewall Williams & Co., and Jeremiah Smith. This company was incorporated under the name of the "Phœnix Cotton and Paper Factory"; but by an additional act of the Legislature in 1832 this name was changed to that of "Phœnix Factory," by which it is now known. Under the new act the shares were divided into one hundred instead of thirty-two shares. The paper-mill was kept in operation for some years after the cotton factory was built. It was not till 1823 that the paper-making was given up, and the original building, south part, was taken down, and a new brick building erected. This new building was fitted up and put in operation by Samuel G. Smith, then the agent of the company, during this same year. This same building, with all its valuable machinery, was destroyed by fire, Dec. 18, 1828. This was the largest and most destructive fire that had ever occurred in town. It took fire from a small stove in the attic. The engine of the factory just west of the building, after some delay caused by its not having been used since the preceding October, and by the bursting of the hose from the hurry and inexperience of the men, was finally got into successful operation, which, together with the engine from the Union Manufacturing Co., continued to throw a large quantity of water for four hours, and greatly backened the fury of the flames, and preserved the north half of the building,—a wooden structure, only separated from the burning building by a brick wall. It was a terribly cold day; water was easily congealed into ice, and many present who came in contact with the water were covered with a coating

of ice from head to foot. The loss was estimated at $32,000. This mill was soon replaced and filled with machinery; and the north half of the establishment, which occupied the old wooden structure erected by Samuel Smith, was removed and a brick building erected in its place.

Samuel G. Smith resigned his agency in 1830, and removed to Baltimore. He was succeeded by John H. Steele, who superintended it many years, till he was succeeded by Frederick Livingston in 1834, Edward O. Abbot having held the office one year in the meantime. Jonas Livingston, having succeeded in purchasing a majority of the stock of the company, took possession and the superintendence of the factory in 1865, which he now manages. He has greatly enlarged and improved the establishment, so that it is now the most extensive manufactory in town.

Eagle Factory. — This building was erected in 1795 by Daniel Abbot, and was for many years occupied by him as a cabinet-shop, chair-factory, and dwelling-house. It was converted into a cotton factory by him and others, under the name of Eagle Factory, in 1813, and the machinery for it was built by Harris & Dodge, of Peterborough. It was many years under the charge of Thomas Baker, and finally was purchased by Joseph and Abisha Tubbs. In 1833 it was sold by them to Moore & Colby, who, in the summer of that year, removed the old buildings and built their machine-shop, where the business of building machinery has been carried on ever since.

South Factory. — This factory was erected in 1809, on the west bank of the Contoocook River, in the South Village. It was put in operation in 1810, and was owned by Nathaniel Morison, Jonathan Smith, Jonas Loring, Nathaniel Holmes, Samuel Morison, William Smith, and Jacob Putnam. Benjamin Chamberlain was first employed, as master-workman, at two dollars per day, but, being found incompetent, Jacob Putnam was engaged to continue the work. It was finally completed by Nathaniel Holmes, Jr., and John H. Steele. It was

in view of the high prices paid for labor at this mill that Samuel Morison, a sagacious observer of mankind, used to say that "Give a man fifty cents a day and he will work like a hero, give him one dollar a day and he will do tolerably well, but give him two dollars or more, and he will do nothing."

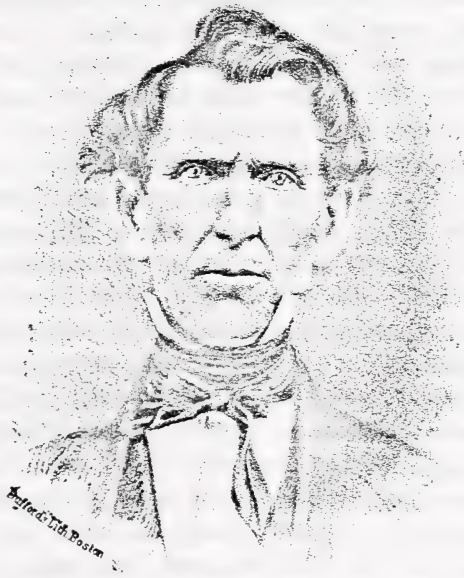
This property was purchased by Nathaniel Morison in 1814 or '15, and carried on by him for a few years, at such a loss as to prove his financial ruin. It was then sold to Barry, Senter & Brown, and subsequently by them to Stephen Felt, and was destroyed by fire, Nov. 29, 1849, and has never been rebuilt.

North Factory. — This factory was built in 1813, and is situated on the Contoocook River, at the North Village, one and a half miles north of the Centre Village. It was started in 1814, and looms were introduced in 1823 under the direction of Stephen Felt. It continued in operation till 1860, when it was sold to Charles Wilder, and converted into a shop for the manufacture of barometers and thermometers.

Union Factory. — The first mill was erected in 1824, also the same year a machine-shop, both under the care of John H. Steele. The first owners of this factory were Samuel May, Parker Blanchard & Co., Samuel Billings, and John H. Steele. The cost was $100,000. It has always manufactured very fine goods, — sheetings, of yarn as high as No. 40. In 1856 the original subscription was increased, and a new factory building, mill No. 2, erected and filled with the most modern machinery (for sheeting and shirting), under the care of Frederick Livingston. It was not put into operation till 1858.

This factory is situated in West Peterborough on the Nubanusit, each mill has a separate dam, so that the same water moves them both.

Gov. John H. Steele, who had the superintendence of this factory from its erection, sold out his interest in the same in 1845, when he resigned, and was succeeded by Frederick Livingston.



A. P. Morrison

He continued in charge till 1857, when he was succeeded by J. Wallace Little, who held the office till his death, Sept. 23, 1867. Levi Cross succeeded Mr. Little, and held it till his resignation in 1875. Joseph S. Moody is now the superintendent.

The usual number of operatives employed in both mills is about one hundred and ten. From the great depression in cotton manufactures at the present time (1876), these mills are suspended.

PAPER MANUFACTURE.—The first paper-mill in town was put in operation by Samuel Smith in his great building already alluded to, probably in 1795 or '96, and carried on extensively by him in the use of from two to four engines to grind the rags. The mill was furnished with the necessary vats, presses, etc., together with large lofts for drying the paper, the shutters of the same giving such a peculiar appearance to the paper-mills of the olden time. This mill was continued in operation till the erection of the brick cotton factory on its site in 1823. Up to this time all the paper was made by hand, none of the recent improvements in paper-manufacture having come into use or being even invented.

The next mill was erected by James Smith, now of St. Louis, and William S. Smith, in 1825, on the Nubanusit, near and east of the Union Mills. It was sold to Messrs. Morrison, Hoit & Blodgett, in May, 1835. Mr. Blodgett soon sold his interest in the same to Moses Cheney, of Holderness, who removed to town and remained here till 1846, when he returned to Holderness (now Ashland). The manufacture was then carried on by Mr. Morrison and his son till Mr. Morrison's death, in 1870, when the mill was sold to Samuel Adams, Jr., and J. Madison Nay, the present proprietors.

Another paper-mill was erected in the north-west part of the town, on an old site of Silas Spring's saw-mill, by Gov. P. C. Cheney. It was burned while he was carrying it on, and rebuilt; and on his removal to Manchester it was sold to John J. Barker, who has operated it since.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.—William Powers, from Ireland, was the first clothier who settled in town, on the Wallace Brook, near I. Miller Mears', about 1777. Before this, cloth was carried out of town to be dressed. It is not probable that he commenced the wool-carding; for he became very poor, and the town took his farm and supported him many years. Samuel Smith built his clothier's mill about 1794 or '95, in the village, and continued it till near 1822 or '23. We are unable to fix the precise time or by whom wool-carding was first introduced, but most probably by Samuel Smith. Nathaniel Prentice was many years employed by Samuel Smith in his clothier's shop, and was probably his first clothier. Asahel Gowing carried on the business in 1813, and E. B. Kimball and Jefferson Fletcher in 1816 and '17, and Nathaniel Brown in 1820.

Calvin Chamberlin and James Perkins erected a building for carding wool and dressing cloth and the manufacture of wool, in 1813, at the South Village. In 1817 this mill was purchased by Henry F. Cogswell. It was greatly improved by him, by additions both to the buildings and the machinery. It was destroyed by fire in 1823, at a loss of $3,571.00, and rebuilt in a much improved form in 1824. Mr. Cogswell carried the business on very successfully for some years, and acquired considerable wealth, when he sold out to Joseph Noone in 1845. Mr. Noone continued the business till his death in 1870, and it has been continued since by his sons, R. H. and A. W. Noone. The mill was destroyed by fire in 1872, and has since been rebuilt in the most substantial manner, of brick, and greatly enlarged. The mill is now in successful operation, principally manufacturing a species of goods called roller-cloth for the cotton factories.

In 1828, Thomas Wilson purchased the house and the blacksmith-shop of George McCrillis, on the Contoocook River, north of Noone's woollen mill, and converted the shop into a mill for cloth-dressing and wool-carding, and carried on the business till his death in 1839. After his decease it was purchased by E. B. Kimball, who continued the business till the building was destroyed by fire in 1873. It has not yet been rebuilt.

PEG MILL. — A peg-mill was built by Mark Wilder in 1834, on the Nubanusit River, east of Morrison's mill, and on the Main Road. He commenced making pegs in 1835. He manufactured, the first year, one thousand bushels and averaged twenty-four hundred bushels for several years. The business was discontinued and the building converted into a saw-mill, and now constitutes the site of Briggs' great manufactory for piano-stools, etc.

STONE GRIST-MILL. — This is said to be the best grist and flouring mill in Hillsboro County. It was built in 1840 by Gen. James Wilson and Asa Davis, of split and squared stones from the quarries near. It is two stories high, with a large attic, and thirty-five by thirty-three feet in size.

It is now in successful operation as a grist-mill, a flouring-mill, and a grain-store, sustaining its former reputation, and commanding the confidence of the public. The upper part of this building constitutes the office of the Peterborough *Transcript*, and the printing-office of Farnum & Scott. It is now owned by J. F. Noone. There had been a grist-mill for some years on the spot on which the Stone Mill was erected, tended by Job Hill. It was originally an oil-mill, and is the first water-power below the junction of the Nubanusit and Contoocook Rivers.

BASKET SHOP. — This is the building erected by Moses Chapman, in 1830, for a wheelwright-shop, and was used for various purposes till purchased by Amzi Childs for a basket-shop, in 1854. It is situated near the Stone Mill, and receives its water from the Phœnix Factory into an artificial pond, made of sand carted, in 1825, from the bank to make a place for the Goodrich buildings, so called.

A considerable business is done in the basket line — being the first ever done in town, — the work being principally done by machinery. Amzi Childs is the proprietor of the same.

THE MANUFACTURE OF BAROMETERS AND THERMOME-

TERS. — This business was commenced in town by Charles Wilder, in 1860, in the buildings of North Cotton Factory, which he purchased for this purpose. It has been continued by him since, and is now extensively and successfully carried on, so that the sales vary from one to three or four thousand dollars per month. These instruments have attained such a reputation for accuracy and finish, that they are known and sought after in every part of our country.

The United States government, in some of the departments, after trying English, German, and French thermometers, give Mr. Wilder's instruments the decided preference. He has begun also to export his thermometers to South America, to the British American Provinces, and to Japan, and he is finding an increasing demand for them at home every year.

He employs seventeen persons in his works, and carries on all the processes needed in the operations of his factory, employing a glass-blower constantly for the tubes of his various instruments, and furnishing all the beautiful ornamental and useful mountings of the same.

This business has become a useful and important acquisition to the town.

THE MANUFACTURE OF HAND-CARDS FOR COTTON AND WOOL. — This business was commenced here, in 1797, by Edmund * Snow, and continued by him till the erection of the cotton factories, when he removed to Amherst, in 1810 or '11.

The wire was prepared to be set into the leather by machinery, and the holes were pricked in the leather and the work of setting the same was done in families in this vicinity.

Isaac Parker, Esq., that late eminent merchant of Boston, in his answer to an invitation to attend the Peterborough Centennial in 1839, speaks of setting card-teeth by hand, for which he was paid fourpence per pair, and he says, "By close

* Drake's Dictionary of American Biography gives his name as Edward Snow; his name is Edmund.

yours with respect
William Moore

application in my leisure hours, I could set about one and a half or two pairs per week." Mr. Snow came from Liecester, Mass., where he first pursued this business in company with Pliny Earle, as early as 1785.* He was a great American inventor, and ultimately made such great improvements in the manufacture of cards that they could no longer be manufactured by hand, being entirely wrought by machinery.

Mr. Snow carried on this business in the basement story of the house which he is supposed to have built, directly opposite the factory brick house, east of the first Peterborough cotton factory.

Machine-Shop and Foundry. — This is a large establishment in which all kinds of cotton, woollen, and wood-working machinery are manufactured. It stands on the site of the Eagle Factory, or original chair-factory, of Daniel Abbot. The business was first commenced here by Moore & Colby, in 1833, and subsequently carried on by William Moore. He sold out to Morrison & Felt, in 1848, who continued in business till 1851, when Granville P. Felt became sole proprietor, and greatly enlarged the same, and has carried it on extensively since. Mr. Felt added to the above, in 1865, a foundry, which escaped the conflagration of his works. In 1871, he commenced the manufacture of force and suction pumps, in which he has of late been largely engaged. He has employed from twenty-five to thirty hands, and his business has amounted to $30,000 a year.

This shop, with most of its valuable contents, was destroyed by fire, Nov. 16, 1875, at a loss of from $25,000 to $30,000.

Peterborough Marble and Granite Works. — These were established in 1849 by Hubert Brennan. The marble business was commenced in town as early as 1848 by Hill & Gray, then by Gray, and subsequently by Goodyear Bassett, but with little success till the works were assumed by Hubert Brennan, of Lowell, in 1852.

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* See New American Encyclopædia, article, Pliny Earle.

These works are at present located in the basement of Brennan's Block, on the west side of the granite bridge, on Main Street.

Mr. Brennan, by his workmanship, industry, and talent, has built up a large business, and acquired for his art a wide-spread reputation in the community.

Among the many elegant specimens of his art we may mention a monument to the late Charles G. Cheney, Esq., in the Holderness Cemetery; an elegant and extensive catacomb for John H. Elliot, in the Keene Cemetery; and a chaste and elegant monument, in the Village Cemetery, to the late Joseph Noone, Esq.; beside the beautiful soldiers' monuments erected in the towns of Sullivan, Dublin, and Temple. His business now takes in a large circuit, of twenty-five miles or more, and gives constant employment to eight hands. In point of skilful execution his work is not excelled in the State, if anywhere else.

Briggs' Manufactory of Portable, Patent Piano-Stools. — This business was commenced in town, in a small way, by Joshua Briggs, in 1862. He made, at odd jobs, one dozen of piano-stools in 1863, occupying the basement of Robert Day's shop, near "Wilder's Manufactory," North Peterborough. In the spring of 1864 he rented the second story and attic of "Brennan's Building," in the village, and continued there until the whole building was too limited for his vastly increased business, when he purchased the saw-mill property of Sampson Washburn, the site of the old peg-mill of Mark Wilder, and erected for his manufactory, in the summer of 1873, his present large and commodious buildings. The progress of his business was gradual, from making a dozen piano-stools by himself, as in 1862, '63, and then with hiring one or two hands a part of the time, to his present condition. He now employs, when the business is good, from twenty-five to thirty hands in the shop, and at the same time hires all his iron-work, castings, screws, etc., done outside.

Mr. Briggs has secured five several patents on his piano-

stools; *viz.*, two on the screw style, two on the ottoman style, one on the portable back.

"The Massachusetts Charitable Mechanics' Association," Boston, in September, 1869, awarded to him a diploma and honorable mention of his piano-stools. In September, 1871, at the New England Fair at Lowell, Mass., a silver medal was awarded him for his portable piano-stools.

CHAPTER XVIII.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Situation of the Town, etc.— Village.— Little Waste Land at First.— East Mountain Added. — Uneven in its Surface. — Best Portions of It. — Forests. — Letter of S. J. Todd, Esq. — Forests Destroyed and Land Deteriorated. — Small Growth of Wood now. — Game has all Disappeared. — Climate not Materially Changed. — Salubrious. — Longevity Increased. — Causes. — Rivers. — Contoocook. — Nubanusit. — Brooks. — Arboreal Products. — Wild Fruit. — Wild Animals. — Insects Injurious to Vegetation. — Putnam's Grove.

PETERBOROUGH, County of Hillsboro, latitude forty-two degrees, fifty-two minutes, longitude seventy-two degrees, three minutes, is situated in the south-western part of the county, bordering on Cheshire County, and lies in an amphitheatrical form, with the Monadnock and the large elevated ridge of land north of it on the west, the Pack Monadnock and its range, extending through Sharon to New Ipswich, on the east. The village is situated on the Contoocook not far from the centre of the town, and is the place where these opposite sides converge. The village is thus conveniently situated, not less for business than beauty. It has been considered one of the most beautiful of our New England villages.

As originally laid out, by the first surveyor, the town had very little waste land, and would have been quite free from it, but that Col. Blanchard, the agent of the Masonian Proprietors, under their direction, cut off three-fourths of a mile from the west side of the town, and added as much to the east side, thus including most of the East Mountains within the limits of the town. As originally laid out, it was, without doubt, the best township in this vicinity.

In 1788 a small portion of the town situated on the south-east corner of the same, and on the east side of the mountain, was set off to Temple to accommodate those occupying the land, by the following vote of the town, July 8, 1788.

"Voted, that the following eight lots of land in the south-east corner of Peterborough be set off to Temple, to wit: No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5, No. 6, No. 33, No. 34, upon the condition that any person or persons who now or at any time, when the said lots shall be annexed to Temple, shall reside or live on the same shall, in case they stand in need of relief, be considered as the proper charge of said Temple."

During the next Legislature, of 1789, an act was passed annexing the above named lots to Temple.

We find further, that when Greenfield was chartered, in 1791,* that the remainder of the range of lots which were annexed to Temple, of from one to six, was added to this town, the length of the line being one thousand four hundred and fifty rods.

The following is the article in the charter of the same: —

"Easterly on the north line of Peterborough about seven hundred and sixty-eight rods to the west line of the east range of lots in said Peterborough, then south on the west line of said east range of lots in said Peterborough, about fourteen hundred and fifty rods to the north-west corner of Temple."

It seems by this, that one entire range of lots on the east side of the town was cut off, and the east line of the town removed one lot or one-half mile further west. The action of Col. Blanchard in cutting off one and a half ranges from the west side of Peterborough and annexing the same amount

* Proceedings of the town. By Town Records, March 16, 1790, on the petition signed by a few inhabitants of Peterborough and a number of the inhabitants of Lyndeboro. Lyndeboro Gore and the Society to take the east range of lots of Peterborough to be annexed to the Society, Lyndeboro Gore and the westerly part of Lyndeboro to make a parish. It was voted not to grant the prayer of the petitioners. Another article was inserted in the warrant the same year, Aug. 12, 1790, to see what the town will do respecting the petition of sundry persons to be disannexed from Peterborough and incorporated into a town.

It was voted, Sept. 20, to grant to the persons petitioning the General Court for the east range of Peterborough, in case they obtain from Lyndeboro and other places what they have petitioned for, to be incorporated into a town.

to the east side, threw the East Mountains entire into Peterborough. After the east range had been disannexed and added to Temple and Greenfield, the east line of Peterborough passed over the highest part of the first mountain, and west of the other elevated land, so that only a part of the highest mountain is now contained in Peterborough.

The town is very uneven in its surface, the hills rising both on the eastern and western sides of the valley of the Contoocook to considerable height. On the eastern side of the village is an elevation rising rather abruptly to the height of two hundred feet, where the old meeting-house stood, which was used for public worship till 1825. Though so uneven in its surface, the town has been considered to contain a large amount of soil well fitted for cultivation, some parts being better than others. The best portion of land in town was, no doubt, the farm A, of five hundred acres, laid out for Jeremiah Gridley, one of the original proprietors, embracing part of the farms of Cyrus Frost, Stephen D. Robbe, Charles McCoy, and W. H. Longley, and extending across the Nubanusit and reaching near to the machine-shop of Granville P. Felt; while the farms B, C, D, laid out for the other proprietors, situated on the Contoocook and extending to the Hancock line, were not nearly so good. Some of the hill land was very good, especially that on the meeting-house hill, where early settlements were made. The surface was mostly covered with a heavy growth of wood. The principal of the arboreal products were the pine, hemlock, beech, birch, and maple. These dense forests extended as far as the eye could reach. On the north it was one unbroken forest to Canada, on the west Keene was the nearest point, and Townsend on the south. Here was the pine in its pristine glory, the king of the forests, so uniformly reserved, in all grants, for the masting of His Majesty's ships. Many of them were found one hundred feet in height, and six feet in diameter at the butt. All these noble trees have been destroyed and burnt in the clearing of the land, till now hardly a vestige remains of the original forest. One of the sons of Peterborough, S. J. Todd, Esq., of Beloit, Wis., writes me: "At my last visit to

Peterborough, in 1874, I found (after thirty-seven years' absence) that the heads of my old school-mates were turning gray, and that their faces were furrowed by time, and, sadder still, that which was the crowning glory of Peterborough (next to her sons and daughters) had nearly disappeared. Your noble forests were gone. Those hills which had been covered with grand trees had been stripped bare and naked. The beautiful groves, 'God's first temple,' had vanished." So it is; the trees are nearly gone, leaving the hills bare and unproductive to cultivation, and mostly covered with white grass, and unsuited to furnish much pasturage to the cattle.

And the land, thus stripped of its trees, is in a worse condition. When the first settlers commenced, the land was in its virgin state, and was very productive without much fertilizing or labor; the same is now worn out and nearly worthless.

Many large, productive farms are now so run out that they have been abandoned, and others will be as soon as the present buildings grow tenantless.

We know not how these lands are to be recruited as long as the agricultural products of the West can be brought to us by a cheap transportation, so as to undersell our home productions raised on the hard soil and by the dear labor of New England.

It is doubtful if the wood now grows in town as fast as it is consumed, even with a considerable use of hard coal. Almost all wild game has disappeared, having no place of shelter now. The brooks, the home of the trout, have so dried up, with the clearing of the forests, as to afford hardly any retreat for them. We should be thankful that the birds will still remain with us, and accept our planted trees as a substitute for the primeval forests.

We are not aware that there has been any great change in the climate. There are with us the same great varieties of warm, mild, and intensely cold weather as with our ancestors. We have the same very cold winters as formerly, and the same deep snows, and when we begin to talk of an amelioration of the climatic influences, we often experience a variety of bad weather, intensely cold, or wet, or hot, never exceeded before.

We have summer enough generally to ripen our crops, though now and then some of them are cut off by the early frosts. Though rains are usually abundant enough, now and then an extreme drought comes on to destroy all vegetation, and cut off most of the crops of the season. But with common prudence and forethought the farmers usually secure their crops safely, the season being long enough to ripen such products as they raise.

If the winters are sometimes intensely cold and the summer intensely hot, it is very rare that these periods continue much length of time. The climate is considered salubrious, notwithstanding these great vicissitudes of weather, and tending to the longevity of the inhabitants. Many are of the opinion that the longevity of the early settlers far exceeded that of the present day. If a careful examination should be made from such data as we can command, it is pretty certain that the present generation would go far beyond their predecessors in longevity. Never were more persons above seventy living in Peterborough than at this very time. The number over seventy years of age, by an exact enumeration carefully made by George H. Longley, in June, 1876, has been found to be one hundred and fifty-one, with thirty in their seventieth year. The number over eighty is thirty-five, and three over ninety, *viz.:* Elihu Thayer, ninety-three, Mrs. Job Hill, ninety-three, and Nathan Gould ninety-one. The period of human life is prolonged by the progress of our age. There has been a great improvement in all that pertains to our living, a more judicious diet, a more comfortable and safe mode of clothing, better dwellings, and a more general observance of the laws of health. The early settler, by his dauntless spirit and daring courage in braving the perils of the forests, the dangers of war, the depredations of the Indians, and all with insufficient clothing, and often with a scanty and innutritious diet, often succumbed to these evils which assailed him, at an early age. We are surprised to see how many deaths have occurred in full manhood, but particularly how many are recorded at ages from sixty-five to seventy-two or three. It is evident that these men were not wise in regard

to themselves. The common precepts of prudence in regard to life are never to be disregarded by any one with impunity.

There are only two important rivers in town, — the Contoocook and the Nubanusit. The Contoocook (meaning long river), always called, on the plan, "the great river," takes its rise from ponds in Rindge and a small branch from the foot of the southern part of the Monadnock, which unite before they reach East Jaffrey, where the stream is used largely for manufacturing and mechanical purposes. Before it reaches Peterborough it is enlarged by two brooks, the Mace Brook and the Town Line Brook. It runs nearly north through the town, and about a mile west of the centre. There are various manufactories on it, — Barker's saw and grist-mill, near the southern border of the town; Noone's woollen-mill, at South Village; the grain-mill and other works in J. F. Noone's stone buildings, in the village; a saw-mill and the barometer and thermometer-shop of Charles Wilder, at North Village. On it formerly stood, in the South Village, the second cotton factory built in town, which was burnt in 1849, and Kimball's clothing mills, burnt in 1873. This stream is very readily affected by large rains or by the effects of melting snow in the spring, so that it was a common thing to have a bridge carried off, as the south bridge, the new bridge, or the great bridge at the village. The permanent stone bridge at the village, built in 1842, has as yet stood all the freshets that have occurred since.

The other river is the Nubanusit, situate in the north-westerly part of the town, running in a south-easterly direction till it makes its junction with the Contoocook in the village. It has its rise from two sources. One branch (the north) flows from Long Pond in Harrisville, which receives as a tributary the stream used in all the manufactories of that town. This pond is used as a reservoir for the large factories in Peterborough, and enables them in times of low water or a drought to keep their mills in motion. Barker's paper-mill is on this branch, a short distance above its junction with the other branch of this river.

The other branch of the Nubanusit flows from Thorndike's

or Bullard's Pond, in the north-west part of Jaffrey, at the foot of the Monadnock, through the south part of Dublin, and unites with the Harrisville branch in the Spring Meadows above West Peterborough, as mentioned before. This river is now called Nubanusit (meaning little waters), from the Indian name of that portion of the "Town Line Brook" which flows through the meadows and flat lands east and south of the Dudley Chapman place, now occupied by Joseph McCoy, the lower part of the same stream being called "Hill's River." The name, long since disused, is now applied to this stream as a beautiful, euphonious Indian title that should by all means be retained in town. It is absolutely certain, from the old plan of the town, that the name of Goose Brook, which has prevailed about eighty years, was wholly unknown to the original settlers. It was probably adopted near the end of the last century, from the accident that the poultry-yard of Asa Evans stood on its banks, and his geese were constantly seen on its waters. This is a sure and never-failing stream, and is well adapted to the various purposes for which it is used. The principal manufactories in town are located on it,—the Union Manufacturing Co., Adams & Nay's paper-mill, and Briggs' manufactory, at West Peterborough; and in the Central Village, Felt's machine-shop, first Peterborough cotton factory, Phœnix Factory, and Farrar's shop. If the river has grown somewhat less from natural causes than formerly, it is yet of sufficient power for all needed purposes.

Turner's Brook rises in the south-east part of Dublin, runs through a corner of Jaffrey, then across the south-west part of Peterborough, and enters the Contoocook a little below Bacon's mills in Jaffrey.

The Mace Brook, called on the old map Gridley's River, rises in the south-east part of Sharon, and has been and is now improved for saw-mills in its course; and enters the Contoocook on the east side, about midway between the Turner and Town Line Brooks.

The Town Line Brook, called on the plans Hill's River, at its mouth rises near the notch of the mountain, on the south border of the town, and enters the Contoocook near Barker's Mill.

The Cold Brook, called, unaccountably, on the plan Isle Slow Brook, for it has no island, and is not slow in its flow, is a small stream rising in Cold Springs, east of the Samuel Morison house, and unites with the Wallace Brook in the White Meadow. Where it crosses the Mial Woods Road its waters are but a few inches deep; but they were deep enough to drown Lieut. Ephraim Smith (called Cady Smith), April 8, 1814, while intoxicated. His horse had stopped to drink; the rider, falling into the water with his face downwards, was unable to turn himself over, and was found with the back of his head actually above the water!

The Wallace Brook has its rise in the swamps east of the Capt. W. Wilson farm, with a small stream from the Cuningham Pond, and running down past J. Milton Mears', it enters the Contoocook in the White Meadow, west of the Bleak house.

On this stream are the cranberry meadows of Felt & Nay, near its origin; and it supplied the power for William Powers' clothing-mill and Moses Chapman's furniture-shop, situated near Mears' house. It is now used for some mechanical purpose by A. Z. Fuller, near where the stream crosses the Temple road; and a few years ago a saw-mill was erected west of this, where for a time much sawing was done.

The Bogle Brook has its source in a small pond on the East Mountain, and furnishes the water-power for John D. Diamond's mill, and was formerly used for a saw-mill by James Howe, and runs in a north-westerly direction, past the house of John Ramsey, to its junction with the Contoocook.

The Otter River, so called, is a brook that is used for the Holmes Mills near the Greenfield line, and Russell's saw-mill, and enters the Contoocook near the north line of the town.

A small stream passing through the Moore Meadows and entering the north branch of the Nubanusit is called Beaver River.

There are but two ponds in town, one of these being very small. There is a collection of water covering an area of eight or nine acres, high up on the East Mountain, some four

or five hundred feet above the village, situated just north of the highest peak of these mountains, and some sixty rods or so from the east line between Peterborough and Temple. We are not aware that it has ever yet had any name. It is pure water, with sandy shores all round it, and said to abound with fish. Cuningham Pond is also situated in the east part of the town, consisting of about forty acres. It is said to have had no fish formerly; is pure, clear water, furnishing in abundance the best ice for summer use, and in a dry season it has no visible outlet.

Among the arboreal products are the ash, three kinds, white, red, and black; beech; birch, four kinds, black, white, yellow, and gray; basswood or linden; cherry-tree, black and red; elm, fir, hemlock, hornbeam, juniper, red oak, moosewood, white pine, spruce, sycamore, poplar, rock or sugar maple, white maple, butternut, and witch elm. White oak, hickory, and pitch pine are not found here. The beautiful mountain ash is found on some of the hills.

Wild Fruits.—The wild fruits are the upright blackberry, raspberry, blueberry, high and low, checkerberry, strawberry, and in some spots the black huckleberry and cranberry. The high and low blueberries are tolerably abundant in various places in town; and the high blackberries often yield a plentiful supply, are much used, and constitute a healthful fruit. Native strawberries are much less abundant than in former days, when the land was first cultivated. Raspberries are often found by the sides of the travelled roads and their fragrance is grateful.

Wild Animals.—The moose, the largest wild animal in this part of the country, was killed in town as late as 1760.

Deer were often taken by the first settlers. Three were in town a part of the winter of 1809, and one passed through town in 1823.

Beavers were taken in town after the commencement of the settlement. Maj. Heald, of Temple, took several in Sharon. The last of the family left a leg in his trap, and

was taken by Mr. Taggart, of Dublin, more than twenty years after, about 1790.

Wolves were mischievous. In June, 1783, they destroyed about fifty sheep in one night, belonging to Capt. Thomas Morison and his son, Samuel Morison.

Bears were somewhat plenty. In 1801 one did damage in the cornfield of Samuel Smith, Esq. It passed through the village, and was not killed.

Wild-cats were here early, but how lately is not known.

The following wild animals are supposed to be in town at the present time: the yellow fox; raccoon; rabbit; skunk; woodchuck; squirrels, gray, red, striped; weazel; hedgehog or porcupine; otter, though exceedingly scarce (one was killed in 1826, and another taken by Mr. Barker near his mill in 1869); the muskrat; the mink.

River fish were very common and easily taken in the early settlement. They have now nearly disappeared. Salmon were plenty in town before the dams were built across the Contoocook. They were frequently taken, from 1793 to 1799.

Insects.—A new enemy to the success of our farmers has of late years appeared. Insects, though small in size, often become formidable by their numbers. Dr. Harris, some years since, published a treatise on some of the insects of New England which are injurious to vegetation. It should be in the hands of every farmer. Their destructive power is far greater than that of crows and foxes, for the heads of which the State has sometimes offered a bounty. It is said that* within the limits of Dublin more than two thousand different species of insects have been collected. Many more would be discovered by further investigation.

There has been here the usual variety of birds, as in other towns in the vicinity; but with the destruction of our forests, however, there has been a great diminution of them. The wild turkey was found early in the settlement. The partridge and

* History of Dublin, p. 120.

squirrel yet remain. The harmless, insect-destroying birds are much less numerous than formerly, and our vegetation has suffered much in consequence.

PUTNAM GROVE.—This grove is situated on the right bank of the Nubanusit and the west side of Grove Street, as you cross the stream to the south, by Farrar's shop. It consists of two and three-quarters acres of land, and is yet covered with its primitive trees. It is in the form of an amphitheatre from the river, which makes it exceedingly convenient for all great gatherings, especially where there is to be any out-door speaking. It has already proved a great comfort and convenience to the inhabitants of the town. It is set apart, for all time to come, for public gatherings, picnics, fourth of July meetings, etc. It is an evidence of the far-seeing sagacity, as well as munificence, of the donor; and her bounty will reach future generations, as the site is never to be appropriated to any other use than that of a public grove.

This grove was presented to the town at its annual meeting, March 11, 1862, by Miss Catharine Putnam, when the following vote was passed: "Voted, That a vote of thanks be presented to Miss Catharine Putnam for her very munificent gift of the grove to the town." After the presentation and acceptance of the grove, and before her decease, she expressed a wish that it might be called Putnam Grove. The following vote was passed at a town meeting held Aug. 12, 1862: On motion of George A. Ramsdell, Esq., by the request of the late Miss Catharine Putnam, "Voted, That the grove lot be hereafter known by the name of the 'Putnam Grove.'"

Miss Catharine Putnam, of Boston, the donor of the grove, was a lady of great wealth, and of unusual mental and moral endowments. In consequence of failing health in the city, she removed to town some years before her death; and, finding her health much improved, she made Peterborough her residence for the remainder of her life. She was constantly striving to do good to others, by her free and liberal gifts to persons of every class who were needy, by her personal attention to the sick, her sympathy to all in trouble, and by the

constant exercise of all the amenities of life. She was as eminently good as she was cultivated and refined. No dimness came over her path in her advanced age; old age was hardly perceptible in her. She died suddenly of a heart affection, without experiencing any sickness, and with hardly any premonition of the event. She died at Peterborough, March 27, 1862, aged eighty-four, and was buried at Mount Auburn, Mass.

The town has surrounded the grove with a substantial picket fence, and put up suitable gates and stiles for entrances, and smoothed and graded the ground for use.

The soldiers' monument is placed on the west side of the grove.

CHAPTER XIX.

CEMETERIES AND BURIALS.

Three Cemeteries in Town. — The Little Cemetery. — Old Cemetery. — First Burials in It. — Gravestones Neglected. — Village Cemetery, 1833, with Two Acres. — Its Gravestones and Monuments. — Pine Hill Cemetery, Purchased 1867, Dedicated July 4, 1869. — First Burials in Town. — Customs at Funerals. — First Hearse, 1802. — Second Hearse in 1868. — A Sexton Appointed by Town.

THREE cemeteries have been established in town since its settlement, *viz.:* the Old Cemetery, the Village Cemetery, and the Pine Hill Cemetery. The Old Cemetery has long since ceased to be used, and the second, the Village Cemetery, is now used only as families have lots in the same; the general place of burial being the Pine Hill Cemetery. In addition to the above, a few burials were made in a little graveyard on the meeting-house hill. This was probably laid out just after the first meeting-house was built, in 1752. It seemed the intention of the early settlers to have the graveyard just behind the church; and a few burials were made here. William Stuart, the first person who died in town, March 15, 1753, aged thirty-three years, was buried here, and then five other burials (which have stones) took place, and a few mounds and head-stones indicate a few graves beside. But the ground vas found so full of rocks, and so hard, that it was impossible to dig graves, and this site was abandoned and a new location sought. A spot was selected near, situated on the side of the hill, east of the meeting-house, of about one and a half acres, and walled in for this purpose,

which is now known as the Old Cemetery. With our modern views of cemeteries, it had an exceedingly bad location; it was on ground, the most of it, wholly unsuitable for the purposes of burial; there was no order in the arrangement of the graves in the yard, only that the head was laid to the west. It was also too circumscribed, as though in this wide country, and where land was so cheap, a sufficient room could not be afforded for the final resting-place of our bodies without impinging on one another. The north side only of this yard was found suitable for graves, embracing but a little more than a half of the yard, while the remainder of it, in consequence of its rocks and ledges, was never occupied. So hardly an acre of ground constituted the burial-place of this town for more than eighty years, or through more than two generations. How such numbers were buried on such a small tract of land, and yet always room for more, is a mystery to us. Gravestones were not very common, in proportion to the number of deaths, and the graves soon became obliterated and gave space for new burials. In these times, very little attention was ever bestowed on cemeteries; they were sadly neglected, allowed to grow up with bushes and briars, to be overrun with cattle, and to become one of the most unsightly places in town. To narrow the precincts of man at death, when he requires so little space at the best, was a petty economy, a thoughtless act that should never have been tolerated.

The first burial in this yard was Samuel, son of Capt. Thomas and Mary Morison, died Dec. 22, 1754, aged one year; and then burials occurred in 1757, '58, '60, '62, '64, and '66, and so on till 1834, when most of the burials ceased, upon the establishment of a new yard. These are some of the earliest burials in the Old Cemetery: Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth Robbe, died Nov. 29, 1757, aged ten months; Jenny, daughter of William and Mary Ritchie, died Oct. 1, 1758, aged two years; Mary, wife of Deacon William McNee, died October, 1759, aged forty-eight years; Hannah, wife of Samuel Todd, died November, 1760, aged thirty years; Samuel Todd, died March 30, 1765, aged thirty-nine years; Agnes, wife of James Brownlee, died March 17,

1762, aged seventy-nine years; Anna, daughter of Samuel Stinson, died Jan. 7, 1764, aged two years; Robert Smith, died Jan. 14, 1766, aged eighty-five years. As for ornamentation of the early cemeteries, it was never dreamed of; all agreed to let the graveyard be the most neglected of all places; but little effusions of fancy and sometimes grim humor would eke out on the gravestones, in the grotesque figures of death and death's head, sometimes an angel with a trumpet, and the memorable inscriptions of "*Moriendum est omnibus*" and the "*Memento mori*" so common in these times. Little scraps of indifferent poetry were often applied to individuals, as much out of place as could well be imagined; for instance, a rough, quarrelsome, and perhaps intemperate, person is lauded with all the choicest and mildest of the Christian graces, the quotation being as devoid of taste as of propriety of application.

The early inscription on the stones began with the real matter of fact, "Here lies the body of ——"; the next step was, "Sacred to the memory of ——"; and later to the plain "Memory of ——"; but subsequently with the plain "Mr. ——," with the date of death and the age, and perhaps with some scrap of poetry or a Scripture quotation on the bottom of the stone. The early gravestones very scrupulously notice all the titles of the individual, and if he had none he was sure to have the plain Mr. applied to his name on his gravestone.

In proportion to the large number of burials, very few gravestones were erected, and all of these were of slate. Many families were very culpable in this respect. No doubt it was attended with a great trouble and expense in these times, and then to be served with an ordinary article at the best. But some of these stones show the durability of slate, even compared with the modern marble. They stand yet — a good, fair record, — after more than a hundred years of exposure to the elements.

Village Cemetery. — The subject of a new graveyard began to be agitated and the matter was brought before the town at a legal meeting, April 10, 1832, by an article in the warrant (the warrant of this year not recorded on town

books), "and a committee, consisting of Deacon Jonathan Smith, Hugh Miller, Moses Dodge, James Walker, John Steele, were chosen to take the subject of a new graveyard into consideration, as to the propriety of establishing one or more new ones or enlarging the old one and report at the next meeting." At the same meeting it was "Voted, to enlarge the old burying-ground under the direction and superintendence of the selectmen."

At a meeting of the town, Nov. 5, 1832 (warrant not recorded), on the third article of the warrant, "Heard the report of the committee, chosen at the last town meeting, on the subject of a graveyard, which was against enlarging the old graveyard and in favor of purchasing land of Samuel G. Smith (in the village), for a new one."

"Voted to accept the report; and that the same committee be authorized to examine said ground, and if in their opinion it is suitable, to make a purchase of the same, and the selectmen be authorized and directed to fence it in a suitable manner."

"Voted, that the same committee be directed to lay out the said ground in suitable lots, with proper space between each lot, and that the same be staked out with stone posts and numbered."

At a town meeting, April 9, 1833, on motion, "Voted to accept the report of the committee on the subject of the graveyard." At a meeting, April 8, 1834, on motion, "Voted, that the town take one acre of land on the north end of the new graveyard, and that the selectmen fence what part of it they think proper."

So the town started off in 1834 with their new cemetery, instituted for all time, of two acres of land, with an addition of an acre on the north end, which the selectmen were authorized to fence, if they thought proper, it being a side hill so abrupt and steep as never to admit of burials or any other use, only as a link in the world's continuity.

With the use of this cemetery, new ideas began to prevail here as well as elsewhere in regard to places of burial. More elegant and costly kinds of gravestones began to be common,

the slate was entirely discarded and the best specimens of marble substituted. Each family now had their own lot, upon which, often, much was expended in ornamentation, in grading the grounds, in iron fences or stone curbing. Very many expensive monuments of marble and granite were erected, which, together with trees, shrubbery, etc., make this cemetery altogether a beautiful and attractive place.

Pine Hill Cemetery. — In 1866 and 1867 it was found that all the lots in the Village Cemetery had been taken up, and those, also, belonging to families who had left town with only one or two burials on a lot had been appropriated. It became a necessity then either to enlarge the yard or to select a new one. A committee was appointed at the annual meeting, 1867, to investigate the matter, consisting of Dr. Daniel B. Cutter, Riley B. Hatch, John N. Thayer, and Albert Frost, and report at a future meeting, not exceeding three months. This committee reported at a town meeting, held May 14, 1867. After examining the Village Cemetery, they reported against an enlargement. They say that "The land on the north and east was found hilly, some parts rocky, with deep ravines where water, at times, rushed with great power; it is difficult of access, and could be used only by grading and terracing at much expense." And then on the south side, six rods only in width could be added, that would furnish seventy-two burial-lots the size of those in the present yard, and this at a great expense and serious damage to the property adjacent. Two locations were then specially examined: one on land of Benjamin Buckminster and Watson Washburn, on the east side of the river and half a mile north of the Village Cemetery; the other on land on the Bailey Hills, so called, on the west side of the river, owned by Joseph H. Ames; the latter of which the committee recommended, with two members of the same dissenting — one of the said committee and one of the board of selectmen, — who were in favor of the lot owned by Buckminster and Washburn. The report was accepted, but it was voted, "That it is the sense of this meeting that the cemetery be enlarged."

This vote was reconsidered at a subsequent meeting, May 28, 1867, and at the same meeting the following action was had: "Voted, That the selectmen be authorized to purchase for the town, for a cemetery, land owned by Messrs. Buckminster and Washburn, or either of them; and that a committee of five be chosen to confer with the selectmen, and locate a cemetery as in their judgment they may think best; but that three-fourths of said committee and selectmen shall agree upon the location." "Albert S. Scott, John Smith, Joseph Noone, Charles Wilder, M. L. Morrison, were chosen said committee." The above committee, with the selectmen, it seems, agreed upon the location of a new cemetery on land of Messrs. Buckminster and Washburn. And a committee was chosen to make all due regulations in regard to the new yard, as to the laying it out in lots, the size of the lots, the price of the same, and give names to the avenues, paths, etc., as well as determine the name of the cemetery itself. They decided that it should be known by the name of the Pine Hill Cemetery.

The cemetery contains about forty acres, and is diversified with sufficient hill and dale. It has a large growth of pine, shrubs, and other kinds of trees to give great beauty and variety to the grounds.

After its adoption as a town cemetery, by the advice of the above committee, it was dedicated on Sunday P. M., July 4, 1869, in a hollow to the left as you enter the west gate. The attendance was very large and the services interesting. Rev. George Dustan delivered the dedicatory address.*

The yard has been enclosed with a neat picket fence by the town, and three gates of entrance have been erected at three different points, to accommodate the people and give easy access to the ground.

It is now, 1875, the general burial place for the town, except for those who have lots in the Village Cemetery, and friends buried there.

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* The first burials in this yard were made in 1868, on Lot No. Three, and Rosa A. A., daughter of John C. and Ariannah A. Richardson, who died July 15, 1868, aged one year and six months, was the first person buried in the same.

HEARSES, BURIALS. — It appears that in the early settlement of the town it was the custom, at funerals, to place the body on a bier, and to have it borne on the shoulders of the bearers to the grave, from every part of the town, and sometimes even from neighboring towns. It became a serious grievance to the community, and gave rise to the following article in the town warrant for a meeting, March 30, 1802: —

"Article 10. To see if the town will vote to take into consideration the burden our young men bear in carrying the dead to the grave, and the utility of purchasing, at the town's expense, a horse carriage, or carriages, to carry the corpses to the grave, and also a set of suitable tools to dig the graves."

"Voted, that the selectmen purchase a suitable carriage to carry the dead to their graves."

This was the first hearse bought in town, and was continued in use until 1868, when at a meeting held March 10, 1868, it was voted "That the selectmen be authorized to purchase a hearse at an expense not exceeding six hundred dollars, and that the said sum be raised and appropriated therefor." Agreeable to the above vote, a handsome and modern hearse was purchased, which is now in use.

A sexton is now appointed by the town, whose duty it is to dig all the graves, to attend all the funerals, to convey the bodies to the graves, and take care of the cemeteries at the expense of the town.

CHAPTER XX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Town Hall. — Monadnock Railroad. — Masonry. — Independent Order of Odd Fellows. — Banks. — Newspapers. — Temperance. — Casualties. — Town Clock. — Fire Engines. — Surplus Revenue. — Osgood Gratuity. — Post-Office. — Population.

Town Hall. — The first town-house was built in 1830. Previous to this time all the town meetings had been held in the meeting-house, of which the town, in this as well as in the adjacent towns, was always part owner. A vote was passed at a meeting of the town, Aug. 31, 1829, in which the house was located on the Mitchell Flat, so called; the selectmen were authorized to purchase Lot No. 5, on which John N. Thayer now lives, for this purpose; the house to be built of brick, of one story, and to be completed by Oct. 1, 1830. Many of the citizens of the town, being desirous of having a room in the town-hall for public schools and other purposes, petitioned the town to add another story to the building. At a subsequent meeting, June 9, 1830, it was voted not to add another story to the town-hall, and not to permit subscribers to add one at their own expense! It was a very mean house, seeming to be built in the narrow, jealous spirit which originated it, and continued to be used with universal discontent, till the town outgrew its dimensions, and required larger quarters.

At a meeting of the town, March 13, 1860, it was voted to build a town-house; and, agreeable to this vote, a town-hall of large dimensions was erected during the year 1860.

It is a large building, fifty-five feet by eighty-five feet. The hall is on the second story, and the entrance is by stone steps on the north end of the building.

This floor embraces a large hall, sixty-four and a half feet by fifty-five feet, and two anterooms, an entrance to hall and rooms, besides a passage-way to the attic, which is occupied by the Odd Fellows. The basement story is divided into four apartments, which are rented for various purposes, in the south of which the town library is placed.

It is a handsome and imposing edifice, but has never proved satisfactory for the purposes for which it was intended. The hall was constructed from an imperfect and incorrect plan, and which did not accord with any acoustic principles; so that both speaking and hearing are very difficult in the same. No remedy for this great defect has yet been devised, and it has to be endured with all its inconveniences.

Monadnock Railroad. — The necessity of railroad facilities had long been felt by the business community of Peterborough, and strenuous efforts had been made from time to time to secure a railroad connected with some trunk leading to Boston, but had all hitherto failed. The barrier of the East Mountains seemed to cut off the town from all connection with the Peterborough & Shirley Railroad at Greenville; and the continuation of the Wilton Railroad round the north side of the mountain not being accomplished, and also then deemed impracticable if not impossible, from the steep grade and unfavorable ground out of East Wilton, the people in 1867 began to agitate a south route to Winchendon, Mass., to connect with the Cheshire Railroad, the present Monadnock road. With much effort this road was pushed through in the year 1870, and opened for the general business of passengers and freight, June 6, 1871.

The town, at a legal meeting held March 12, 1867, voted five *per cent.* of its valuation for a railroad from Parker's Station to the Cheshire Railroad at the State line, so called, not to be paid till the road should be completed to the Centre Village. The Monadnock, having completed their road to

the village from Winchendon, claimed the gratuity as before voted, when, at a town meeting held Oct. 6, 1870, it was voted to give the Monadnock Railroad $40,000, and the remainder of the five *per cent.* when the road should be completed to Hillsboro Bridge or Parker's Depot, Goffstown. Vote, 293 affirmative, 111 negative, there being twenty-three more than two-thirds.

The road has been in successful operation since it started, and has proved a great benefit by giving an impetus to individual enterprise and to all business affairs in town.

In the summer of 1874 the Boston, Barre, & Gardner Railroad leased the Monadnock road for ninety-nine years, and have successfully operated the same since.

The following are the officers of the road: President: Jonas Livingston; Clerk and Treasurer: William G. Livingston; Directors: Jonas Livingston, Willis Phelps, O. H. Bradley, J. H. Fairbanks, Peter Upton, H. A. Blood, H. K. French.

MASONRY. — The charter of Altemont Lodge, No. 26, which was established in Dublin, was granted by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, June 14, Anno Lucis 5815. It went into operation, and was formally consecrated, Sept. 18, 1816, on which occasion Rev. Thomas Beede, of Wilton, preached the sermon. The meetings continued to be held in Dublin for some years, at one of which, May 7, 1816, the following vote was passed, *viz.:* "Voted to exclude the use of ardent spirits in this lodge, and substitute therefor crackers, cheese, and cider."

The subject of a removal of the lodge to Peterborough began to be agitated at a regular communication, May 15, 1825, when Amos Heald, Peter Tuttle, Levi Fisk, Henry Whitcomb, and Oliver Heald were appointed a committee to report whether, in their opinion, the interests of Masonry would be promoted by a removal of this lodge from Dublin to Peterborough. This committee reported: "that if the lodge can be removed from Dublin to Peterborough without disturbing the harmony of the same, it will be for the good of Masonry to have it removed." The report was accepted, and

measures were taken which resulted in the removal of the lodge to Bernard Whittemore's hall in Peterborough. Few, if any, of the Masons in Dublin followed it. One after another, as appears by the records, withdrew his membership; and some never met with the lodge again.

The lodge was kept in operation in town till 1834, when in consequence of the political excitement of the times in which Masonry had become involved, its meetings were suspended until 1849. The institution of Masonry at this time became very unpopular, and the lodges generally suspended operation through the country. The charter of the Altemont Lodge, in consequence, became forfeited in 1840, but was restored in 1849.

On the renewal of the lodge, in 1849, it became very popular, and now numbers about one hundred and twenty members, embracing some of our best citizens. It has recently taken possession of the beautiful and spacious hall over the Peterborough Savings Bank, which it now occupies. The Peterborough Royal Arch Chapter, No. 12, holds its meetings in the same hall.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows.—On the petition of Edwin Steele, John Parker, A. P. Morrison, Levi Cross, and J. H. Webber, a charter was granted by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, in February, 1846, to be located in Peterborough, and to be known as Peterborough Lodge, No. 15, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The members first initiated, when it was instituted into working order, the 18th of Feb., 1846, were Timothy K. Ames, Avery H. Hayward, James G. White, Nathan Whitney, Granville P. Felt, David F. Hall, Henry S. Carter, Samuel Jaquith, Hosea Pierce, and George Pritchard.

They held their meetings for nineteen years in the hall known as the Goodridge Hall, in the attic of the store formerly occupied by Samuel Smith, till 1864, when, jointly with the Masons, they leased the new hall fitted up in the Town Hall Building, where they still continue to hold their meetings, while the Masons have removed to the new hall in the Savings Bank Building.

Also with this order there exists a Rebekah Degree Lodge, No. 5, of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, confined to wives of Odd Fellows. "The degree of Rebekah" (says our informant, J. G. White, Esq.), "which has been in operation since January, 1852, has already won the approval and admiration of the fraternity. Thousands of ladies, the wives of Odd Fellows, have already availed themselves of its privileges, and thousands more are ready to receive them. It is chaste, beautiful, and admirably adapted to the object it designs to effect. Schuyler Colfax, the author of this new and popular degree, deserves and has received the sincere thanks of the fraternity for this ornament to the building which our fathers framed. The order is now in a flourishing condition."

In 1867, thirty of the younger members of Peterborough Lodge, No. 15, obligated themselves to revive and sustain the Encampment, No. 6, which had become extinct, provided seven patriarchs of the said order could be found who had been honorably discharged, who should petition for the restoration of the charter and property of said encampment. The following are the names of the petitioners, *viz.:* James G. White, John H. Webber, Granville P. Felt, Joseph Noone, Ira A. Spofford, Nathan Whitney, and D. F. Hall. The Most Worthy Grand Patriarch granted this request by dispensation. This encampment was instituted, Sept. 4, 1867, the officers were chosen and installed, and the lodge started off in good working order. To the present time, October, 1875, there have been admitted to the encampment sixty-four members. The present number is sixty. This encampment pays no benefits. It is at the present time in a prosperous condition.

Peterborough Lodge, No. 15, is in a flourishing state, and has admitted, during its thirty years of existence, by initiation, two hundred and forty-one members. The largest number of contributing members has been one hundred and fifty-three; the present number is one hundred and thirty-four.

A large number have withdrawn by card to join other lodges, a few have retired from disaffection, and quite a number have been suspended; four have been expelled, twelve have died, and seventy-seven have been rejected.

The lodge has paid, since it went into operation, for benefits, burying the dead, and for charitable purposes, $4,350; and at the end of thirty years, the funds of the lodge amounted to $5,000, with all its fixtures in good condition.

This institution is supported by the weekly dues of each of its members, and confers upon them when sick a certain allowance per week during their illness. It exercises a supervision over the conduct of all its members, especially the younger part; it admits of no immorality or vicious conduct, or any crime amenable to the laws, but inculcates the highest principles of morality and Christian benevolence.

It looks after the sick of the order, having a special committee for this purpose always appointed and in force, whose duty it is to see if any one of the brethren is sick, and if needy to help him, and provide watchers, or any other aid needed by his family. It pays thirty dollars for burial expenses to the family of every deceased brother, and fifteen dollars to every brother losing his wife. It has a charitable and orphans' fund, from which it dispenses to those of this class needing aid.

It has proved a useful and efficient aid to society in this place, exercising a helpful hand to a large class of its members; in guarding the community from vice, by raising the tone of public morals; in sustaining and taking care of the sick; and in the prevention of suffering and destitution, by its charities and services.

Banks. — The Peterborough State Bank, with a capital of $50,000, went into operation, Jan. 1, 1855; A. C. Cochran, President, and Charles G. Cheney, Cashier. Mr. Cheney resigned, May 16, 1862, and William G. Livingston was elected to fill the vacancy.

This bank closed its operations, May 27, 1865, when the First National Bank of Peterborough was established, with a capital of $100,000. The office of president becoming vacant by the death of A. C. Cochran, Esq., June 27, 1865, Frederick Livingston was elected to fill the same, which office he still holds. William G. Livingston resigned as cashier, Aug. 1, 1867, and Albert S. Scott was elected in his place. Mr.

Scott held the office till April 24, 1871, when he resigned, and was succeeded by the present cashier, Charles P. Richardson.

The bank was removed from the Granite Block, June, 1875, to the southern apartment, on the lower floor of the Peterborough Savings Bank, which has been rented for a series of years.

List of Directors for 1876: Frederick Livingston, Thomas Little, Amos Whittemore, Jonas Livingston, Henry K. French, David Hunt, William G. Livingston.

Peterborough Savings Bank. — This bank was incorporated in 1847. It was organized in 1859, by the choice of John H. Steele, William Follansbee, Timothy K. Ames, Whitcomb French, James Scott, Albert Smith, Daniel B. Cutter, Samuel Nay, Abraham P. Morrison, Abial Sawyer, Norton Hunt, and Samuel Adams, as a board of trustees.

John H. Steele was chosen president and George A. Ramsdell secretary and treasurer. Jan. 12, 1863, John H. Steele resigned his position as president and trustee, and William Follansbee was chosen president of the board. George A. Ramsdell resigned as treasurer, April 30, 1864, and Riley B. Hatch was elected to fill the vacancy. The office of president becoming vacant by the death of Dr. William Follansbee, Dr. Albert Smith was elected to this office, July 6, 1867, which office he still holds.

The bank buildings of the Peterborough Savings Bank were erected during the season of 1870, and the first meeting for business was held in the new rooms, Feb. 20, 1871. R. B. Hatch resigned the office of treasurer, April 5, 1873, and Mortier L. Morrison was elected to fill the vacancy. He entered upon the duties of secretary and treasurer, April 17, 1873, and still holds the office.

Whole amount due depositors, Jan. 1, 1876, $611,676.76. Board of Trustees elected January, 1876: Albert Smith, James Scott, Whitcomb French, Norton Hunt, Daniel B. Cutter, Silas Sawyer, Thomas Little, Ebenezer Jones, Fred-

erick Livingston, Jonas Livingston, Andrew A. Farnsworth, Albert Sawyer, Albert S. Scott.

Standing Committee on Investments: James Scott, Daniel B. Cutter, Ebenezer Jones.

Auditors: Albert Smith, Thomas Little.

NEWSPAPERS. — The first newspaper in town was published by William P. and John S. Dunbar, and commenced in the last part of 1829, which was called the *Hillsboro Republican and New Hampshire Clarion.* It was edited by Rev. Elijah Dunbar. It was printed in the building near the bridge, on Main Street, afterwards known as Joel Brown's store. It had a short duration, for it closed, April 29, 1831, with the ninth number of its second volume.

The second paper, a little sheet in pamphlet form, called the Peterborough *Messenger*, was published by Samuel P. Brown, in the summer of 1847, and discontinued after about ten months.

The first number of the Contoocook *Transcript*, published by Miller and Scott (John R. Miller and Kendall C. Scott), was issued, June 2, 1849, with four hundred subscribers. It has been continued uninterruptedly to this time, the present proprietors having early changed the name to that of *The Peterboro' Transcript*, by which it is now known.

During the first two years of its publication, for a portion of the time, it was edited by Albert S. Scott, Esq., and they were also indebted, for many valuable contributions, to the students of Harvard College.

At the expiration of two years, the subscription list, in the meantime, having been doubled, the paper passed into the hands of K. C. Scott. Elias Cheney was the next proprietor, who sold out to Charles Scott, and by him it was again sold to K. C. Scott, and after some years passed into the hands of the present proprietors, Farnum & Scott.

TEMPERANCE. — This town has never been backward in this great enterprise. Though much good has been accomplished by the various efforts made in its behalf by the efficient or-

ganizations of the Sons of Temperance, the Good Templars, etc., yet the cause progresses slowly, and much remains to be done to inculcate the true principles of sobriety and temperance. Perhaps it may be said with truth, that there is now more total abstinence from intoxicating drinks among the young people than ever before; but the evil is yet great, and the remedy seems as yet unknown.

CASUALTIES.—Aug. 16, 1771, Anna, daughter of Maj. Robert and Mary Wilson, was killed by the falling of a log off a fence.

Dec. 31, 1795, Deacon Robert Smith, died in consequence of a slight wound of his knee, aged forty-three years.

June 25, 1793, Jabez, son of John Field, drowned in a tan-vat, aged four years.

May 19, 1801, Israel, son of John Leathers, and brother to John and Nathan Leathers, was killed by falling from a tree, aged twelve years.

June 29, 1801, Samuel McCoy, son of William McCoy, killed by the kick of a horse, aged thirty-four years.

Dec. 24, 1801, funeral of John Gray, who died instantly, just after sunset, by falling from the staging of Samuel Smith's new saw-mill, aged forty-six years. [Church Records.]

January, 1810, Nathan Sanders, drowned in the mill-pond near the great bridge, a son of Philip Sanders and wife, who were called the "King and Queen." Thomas Baker had taken the boy to bring up to the trade of paper-making, and when out this evening, with a party sliding on the pond, he slipped into an air-hole and was drowned, aged ten years.

June 15, 1810, Ebenezer Hadley, died in consequence of being thrown from his horse and one foot remaining in stirrup, by which he was dragged some distance on the ground, and so injured that he died the next day, aged fifty-nine years.

Jan. 13, 1812, Joseph, son of Capt. William Wilson, scalded to death by falling into hot water, aged two years.

March 27, 1812, Daniel Kimball, killed by being thrown from a horse, aged thirty-four years.

Jan. 13, 1813, a child of Eli Hunt's, scalded to death, aged two and a half years.

April 8, 1814, Lieut. Ephraim Smith, called "Cady Smith," was drowned in the Cold Brook just beyond Mr. Mears', the water but a few inches deep, aged seventy-five years.

June 17, 1816, Samuel Edes, Jr., fell from a barn, now owned by Charles McCoy, while raising, and instantly killed, aged forty-one years, three months.

Sept. 24, 1815, Nathan Smith, lately from Washington, committed suicide by cutting his throat.

Oct. 1, 1818, Thomas White, Jr., by kick of a horse, aged twenty-three years.

Aug. 7, 1821, John Smith, Esq., was instantly killed by falling from a load of hay in the meadow near the Samuel White place, aged sixty-seven years.

Oct. 16, 1822, Nathan Watts, blown up in a well in Dublin, aged thirty-five years.

May 28, 1824, Charles, son of William Smith, mortally wounded by a cart-wheel running over his head, aged seven years.

Sept. 25, 1824, Daniel Gibbs, the mail-carrier, mortally injured so that he died in a few hours, by being thrown out of his wagon and off the great bridge upon the rocks below, aged seventy-three years.

Dec. 25, 1824, David Scott, killed by a falling tree, aged eighteen years.

Dec. 20, 1825, Sarah, daughter of Jonathan Bowers, killed by accidentally falling down the cellar stairs, aged four years.

March 21, 1825, Noah Jackman, killed by the explosion of a rock, aged twenty-one years.

Dec. 28, 1826, Nancy, daughter of Deacon Samuel Maynard, scalded.

July 10, 1828, John Morison, son of John Morison, drowned in the Nubanusit River, in meadow above the Union Factories, aged thirty-one years.

Dec. 21, 1828, John Haywood, of Dublin, killed at the Daniel Robbe hill, by being thrown from his wagon and the wheels passing over his head, aged forty-three years.

April 17, 1829, Jonathan Mussey, son of Dr. John Mussey, accidentally shot himself, aged seventeen years.

April 8, 1832, B. Morse, suicide, aged twenty-seven years.

Jan. 31, 1833, R. W. Stebbins, drowned at the great bridge during a great freshet, body not recovered till the next June.

June 30, 1833, Luther, son of Jonathan Bowers, killed by the explosion of powder, aged fourteen years, seven months.

June 11, 1837, Rebecca Brackett, daughter of Samuel Brackett, committed suicide by hanging, aged fifty-four years.

Dec. 7, 1838, Jefferson Nay, suddenly, from a large infusion of alcohol, aged thirty-one years.

May 19, 1839, son of Paul Boyce, drank some strong ley and lived twenty-three hours, aged one year, nine months.

Sept. 30, 1839, son of —— Crawford, drowned at West Peterborough, aged five years.

March 14, 1841, Gilman Miller, shot himself.

June 21, 1841, Alfred and Albert, sons of Jonathan Bowers, drowned in the Nubanusit, aged six years, eleven months.

July 12, 1844, Dexter Carley, drowned in North Factory pond, aged thirty-nine years.

April 27, 1845, Abby, daughter of Samuel Converse, drowned, aged two years.

Oct. 2, 1846, Charles Brackett, son of Josiah Brackett, killed at Waltham Factory, aged twenty-three years.

June 27, 1847, William, son of William D. Cogswell, drowned, aged eighteen years.

August, 1848, Joel B., son of D. B. Willoughby, drowned while bathing above the Bell Factory, aged eleven years.

June 2, 1838, Hannah Jane, daughter of John Chapman, killed by a window-sash falling upon her neck in her attempt to get into a school-house in Jaffrey, the blocking under her feet falling away and leaving her hung by the neck, aged twelve years, five months.

Dec. 4, 1851, Samuel Clark, hung himself, hereditary insanity.

Feb. 17, 1851, Charles F., son of Amasa Alexander, drowned by being swept over the dam at Granville P. Felt's shop, on

a piece of ice on which he was standing, which broke off unexpectedly. His body was not recovered for six weeks, when it was found near the pine trees opposite to the Village Cemetery, aged fifteen years, seven months.

Aug. 13, 1862, Sophronia, wife of Col. Charles Scott, and Katie, wife of Maj. John Cummings, drowned by a collision of the steamboats "West Point" and "George Peabody," on the Potomac River.

Oct. 27, 1875, La Forrest Saunders, this day, was caught under the cars near the car-house, and both of his legs were broken and crushed as well as his left arm. He survived the accident four hours, aged fifteen years.

The Town Clock. — The Town Clock was purchased and erected in 1856. The ladies of the town, determining that we should no longer be without this useful adjunct to our village, organized and carried through successfully "a clock festival," so called, at the upper hall in this village, Feb. 14, 1856, from which they realized four hundred dollars for this purpose. Another hundred was raised by subscription, the clock costing about five hundred dollars. They employed Mr. David Smiley, jeweller, as their agent to select, purchase, and erect as good a town clock as could be procured. In the discharge of his trust, he rendered a large amount of gratuitous services in the business, to the acceptance of all.

The clock was purchased of Howard & Davis, of Boston, in 1856, and erected in the tower of the Congregational Church the same year. It has proved an excellent time-keeper, and after a trial of nineteen years is now as good as ever. It has grown to be one of the indispensable things in our village. When the clock had been put in good running order, the ladies presented it to the town, and it was accepted by the following vote, March 10, 1857: "Voted, That the town accept the clock presented by the ladies, and take charge of the same." Mr. Smiley has been employed to take charge of it since its erection.

Fire-Engine. — Previous to 1856 there had been very in-

adequate means to extinguish fires in town. The only means were a large fire-engine belonging to and attached to the Phœnix Factory, being placed in a small building on the west side of the same, but from its weight incapable of being transported to any other place, and a smaller one belonging to the Union Manufacturing Co.; but these afforded very little security to the property of the town. Many individuals, feeling their great insecurity from fire, subscribed about $700 for a fire-engine, which induced the town to have the following action, May 3, 1856; "Voted, That the town purchase a fire-engine and the necessary apparatus for the extinguishment of fires."

"Voted, To raise eight hundred dollars for a fire-engine and apparatus."

"Voted, To accept the sums raised by subscription for the same." Chose John H. Steele, Thomas Little, and Granville P. Felt a committee to purchase the same.

In 1874, the town voted, for the security of their property, to lay down water-pipes from the Phœnix Factory to the Town-Hall, which pipes were to be connected with the force-pump of the factory. Individuals who owned property on Main Street raised by subscription between $1100 and $1200, to continue the same through the street, to the great bridge. The work was completed late in the fall of this year, tried, and found to be in perfect order.

In less than two weeks after the pipes were laid it was brought to a successful trial. A room in Henry K. French's building, just over the book-store, having been set on fire by an incendiary, at five different places, with kindlings, so as to insure a rapid fire, the water-works were brought into full play upon the same, in a very short time, and quickly extinguished the same, with but little loss to the building.

Surplus Revenue. — During the administration of Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, a large amount of the revenues of the government was deposited with the several States, to be repaid when called for, and in the distribution to New Hampshire, Peterborough received her moiety of

the State division. An agent, Timothy K. Ames, was chosen by the town to receive their share, and the town was pledged, agreeable to an act of the Legislature, for the safe keeping and repayment of the same, if required to be returned. The whole amount received in three several instalments, including interest, amounted to $5,695.38, all of which was appropriated to the payment of the Poor Farm and stocking the same for running order.

THE OSGOOD GRATUITY. — At a legal meeting of the town held March 10, 1868, "Voted, That the town accept the legacy bequeathed by the late Isaac P. Osgood, of Boston (son of the late Dr. Kendall Osgood), upon the conditions specified in his late will and testament, and that the selectmen be authorized to receive and receipt for the same."

The following is the article alluded to in the will: —

"I give to the selectmen, for the time being, of my native town of Peterborough, in the State of New Hampshire, one thousand dollars, to be by them invested in some safe security, bearing an annual interest of six *per cent.*, the annual income thereof to be by them distributed annually to such paupers of the town as they may judge to be worthy of such charity."

POST-OFFICE. - We suppose there were no postal facilities in town prior to the establishment of a post-office, and the appointment of John Smith, P. M., Oct. 1, 1795. Whether there were any post-offices in any of the neighboring towns, by which letters were sent to the inhabitants of Peterborough, we have no means of knowing. Postal facilities during the Revolution and the subsequent years, to the establishment of the Federal Constitution, 1789, must have been very meagre, if any really existed. It is probable that all the correspondence of that day, which was very small, must have been done through private means. The following are the names of all the postmasters who have held office in town: —

John Smith,	1st Postmaster,	appointed	1st of October,	1795
Samuel Smith,	2d "	"	1st of July,	1797

Jonathan Smith,	3d	Postmaster	appointed	15th of June,	1813
Samuel Smith,	4th	"	"	4th of January,	1817
Riley Goodridge,	5th	"	"	29th of October,	1833
Samuel Gates,	6th	"	"	10th of Febru'y,	1841
Henry Steele,	7th	"	"	15th of May,	1854
Miss S. M. Gates,	8th	"	"	1st of February,	1861
John R. Miller,	9th	"	"	17th of August,	1861

which office he now holds.

The mail was first carried from Brattleboro to Portsmouth once a week, by a Mr. Balch. This mail-route was among those first established in the State, under the Federal Constitution of 1789. We are uncertain as to the precise time that William Thayer succeeded Mr. Balch; but he continued to carry the mail till 1807, when he died suddenly, at Amherst, from an injury received in an innocent scuffle with one of his friends. Daniel Gibbs was the next mail-carrier, and continued to follow the business till his death in 1824, when he was accidentally thrown out of his wagon at the great bridge in the village, then under repair, and fatally injured. For many years he carried the mail on horseback, as his predecessors had done before him, till the one-horse wagons came into use. He at once adopted this vehicle, as more convenient for his mail-matter, and as enabling him occasionally to carry a passenger on his route. Asa Gibbs, his son, succeeded him, and for a few years carried the mail in a two-horse carriage, till the establishment of stages. The first mail-coach from Exeter to Brattleboro commenced running July 14, 1828, three times a week. It was first started and run by George W. Senter and I. N. Cuningham. These facilities were soon so increased as to have a daily mail from Boston, and a stage up and down each day through our village. This continued till the advent of railroad facilities in 1871.

POPULATION.—The first census of Peterborough was made in 1767, as follows:—

Unmarried men from 16 to 60,	33
Married men,	64
Boys 16 and under,	113
Men 66 and above,	13
Females unmarried,	149
Females married,	68
Male slaves,	01
Female slaves,	00
Widows,	02
	443

A census was taken again in 1775 as follows:—

Males under 16,	135
" from 16 to 50,	77
" above 50,	23
Persons gone to the army,	25
All females,	277
Negroes and slaves for life,	08
	545

We have no farther enumeration till the Constitution had been adopted, and the first census taken, in 1790.

In 1790 the population of	Peterborough was,		861
" 1800	"	"	1,333
" 1810	"	"	1,537
" 1820	"	"	1,500
" 1830	"	"	1,983
" 1840	"	"	2,163
" 1850	"	"	2,222
" 1860	"	"	2,265
" 1870	"	"	2,228

It will be seen by the above, that the population of Peterborough has remained nearly stationary for the last forty years. The manufacturing interests have increased while the agricultural have greatly diminished. Many farms are so

run out, by the deterioration of the land and expense of cultivation, that they have already been abandoned, and many more will be when the houses on the same become tenantless. We know not how these lands are to be revived, as long as the agricultural products of the West can be brought to us by a cheap transportation, so as to undersell our products raised on the hard soil and by the dear labor of New England.

The population on all the old farms in town is constantly decreasing, while that of the villages scarcely increases in the same proportion.

In the Centennial Address of 1839, the emigrants from Peterborough, scattered through all the various parts of our country, were estimated at four hundred and eighty. Mr. W. S. Treadwell has, for a number of years, been carefully engaged in ascertaining the number of emigrants since that time, and has found it to be nine hundred and sixteen.

CHAPTER XXI.

CONCLUSION.

Difficulties of the Work. — Changes in Town. — Number of Families Left or Extinct. — Present Descendants. — Comparative Merits of the Descendants with their Ancestors. — Character of the Adopted Citizens. — Number and Character of the Professional Men.

This work is now completed, and no one more than myself can feel how inadequately it has been done. I was too late on the stage for the undertaking; and it should have been a life work, rather than the eking out of the end of a hard professional life. The actors of these early times have passed away, with no record left; their immediate descendants have all disappeared, equally recordless, and the present generation are far advanced in age, with little ability to aid the historian. They were all too indifferent to dates, and too vague in their relations, to be reliable without farther and accurate research. It is true, nowadays, that very little importance is to be attached to tradition, the facilities for writing and printing having become so numerous and easy that no one thinks it necessary to charge his memory with the details of events that may be so well expressed and preserved in this manner. Those men, with their great memories and with their full store of facts, having all passed away before I began my labors, I have had to grope my way as best I could, coming far short of what I desired, or what should have justly been expected in this work.

The changes in town have been very great. Many of the families, large and influential a century ago, have now all left

town, and many of them have become extinct; while many others have become reduced to a very few individuals.

It is believed that, of the following families, there is not now in town a single descendant bearing the family name: Cuningham, Swan, Alld, Wallace, Stinson, Gordon, Mitchell, Todd, Stuart, Duncan, Ferguson, Milliken, Taylor, Powers, Evans, Young, Huston, Wiley, Ballard, McCloud, Hammill, Chubbuc, Finch, Crane, Loring, Holmes, Hale, Holt, Parker, Penniman, Allison, Haggett, Barker, Chapman, Mussey, Hugh Wilson, Whittemore.

The names of the descendants of the first settlers and of the early inhabitants of the town, which follow, in a few instances include a considerable race left, but many of them are reduced to a very small number:—

Robbe, Scott, Smith, Morison, Steele, Moore, Treadwell, McCoy, Hovey, Smiley, Diamond, Brackett, Ritchie, Upton, Laws, Leathers, White, Wilson, Field, Thayer, Hunt, Blair, Weston, Howe, Little, Hadley, Nay, Pierce, Carter, Barber, Puffer, Gowing, Miller, Felt, Davison, Turner, Spring, Gray, Porter, Grimes. The changes of residences, and of families from the old homesteads, have been very great; but very few places remain in the hands of the descendants of the early settlers.

The farms now owned by the descendants of the first settlers, or of those who took up their farms in a wild state, are as follows:—

The farms of Nathaniel H. Moore, Thomas Davison, John Field (occupied by his daughter's family), A. A. Farnsworth, James Wilson, Brackett heirs, Sally Spring, heirs of I. D. White, J. S. Diamond, Stephen D. Robbe, Silas Barber, Alvah Puffer, William Hadley, Frank Smiley, James Scott.

I think it may be within the truth to say that between one-fifth and one-sixth only of the inhabitants of to-day are the descendants of the early settlers and early residents of the town. In looking over the town, through the agricultural, mechanical, mercantile, and professional part of the community, they all seem new men. Where are the descendants? They have either died out, or gone to new

homes; and we hope they have infused their good principles, learned and imbibed here, into other communities. The adopted citizens, who have been here longer or shorter periods, are good inhabitants, and do much to sustain the high character of the town for talent and probity. They are superior to the average of other communities for talent and business capacity, and will do their part faithfully in sustaining the character of this ancient town. They know its pioneers only through history; but they are proud of such an inheritance, — proud of the men who left, so unmistakably, the impress of their virtues upon the town.

We are so accustomed to laud our ancestors, that we are wont to attribute to them, besides their own good qualities, others which they did not possess. They were, undoubtedly, an extraordinary race of men; but, with all their excellences they had large failings.

They were unlearned men, with strong and vigorous intellects, with large common-sense, with a keen observation, and an inquisitive turn of mind, so they could learn orally what it is so hard for us to acquire by long discipline and teaching. They could listen well, if a man had anything to say worth hearing. Their judgment and sagacity easily detected all shams, so no one could gain a hearing who was not worthy. With books they had little to do except the Bible; and they drew from this, as from a great storehouse, in all the exigencies of life.

Many persons are in the habit of extolling the ancestors as vastly superior to their descendants. To this I can give no assent. In the course of my investigations, I have carefully looked through all the branches of the descendants down to the present time; and am more and more satisfied that they are in every way worthy of their parentage, and that there has been no deterioration, but rather an improvement, upon the whole.

In comparing the talents and virtues of the fathers with their children, we must take into the account the different spheres in which they were placed. The qualities and notions of these much-lauded men would be as much out of place at

the present time as that of their children would have been in their day.

The times then required just such men, sagacious, honest, faithful, sincere, and upright, devoid alike of all the graces and refinements of modern society. They were clothed coarsely and lived upon a plain diet, free from all the modern luxuries. More independent men were never known; they felt themselves in their homespun the equals of any of God's creation. A few of them, as is always the case, towered above the rest, but there was, beside, much material that did little honor to the settlement. We do injustice to ourselves as well as to the truth, when we assume that all our ancestors were of this highest type of manhood. The same diversity existed then as now. There were then, as now, the good, bad, and indifferent.

It is often asked what we have to put against such men? I say a worthy list of descendants, such a list as we may well be proud of. In many families there has been a decided advance in their descendants. Many worthy men have done honor to the town, while their parents were little respected. They must have grown up under the influences that surrounded all our youth a century ago, and in this way they acquired correct principles and virtuous habits which were little known or inculcated at the paternal hearth.

This was true of these men, but how is it with the descendants of the best and most influential families? Have they sustained the characters of their fathers? I think they have. Not that they have exhibited the same kind of talent; that would be preposterous to expect, and such qualities now are not required.

The first settlers required peculiar qualifications for the work they had undertaken. They needed shrewdness, sagacity, and common-sense. They needed hardihood, boldness, and courage, for all the exigencies and trials of frontier life. High culture and refinement would have been entirely out of place, and would have been regarded as signs of effeminacy. The hardier virtues flourished, and admirably fitted the men for the peculiar duties of their times. At a later

period, a new order of talent was required; men no longer became prominent by mere physical prowess, or by the robust and hardy endurance of such dangers and perils as was required in the early settlement. In the new generation came up the enjoyment of greater advantages in education (the town had fifty college graduates to 1876), of more comfortable modes of living, of much improved dwellings, of many luxuries and indulgences not known before, of books, newspapers, and all the refining methods of a higher civilization. Did they deteriorate under these influences? The age imposed upon them duties requiring a different order of talents, and in the discharge of their duties, they showed themselves as competent and able as their fathers had ever been.

We should not be considered as disparaging the talents and virtues of our ancestors by saying, that the great distance in time between them and us magnifies their good qualities, so that they appear to the best advantage, and that the memory of their virtues and their excellences has been preserved, while the foibles and deficiencies of their lives are little known.

I wish briefly to enumerate the professional men the town has sent forth. It has furnished some fifteen or sixteen clergymen, all of them respectable and useful men, one of them president of a college, and two of them honored with the title of D. D.

A large number of lawyers, about thirty, have gone forth. They proved men of ability and knowledge, and some of them became very eminent in their profession. Two of them have held the highest judicial office in the State, and one held the same office in another State; some of them have been Representatives in Congress, and one has been Governor of the State. It has furnished about twenty physicians, many of them very efficient men, who have been eminent and useful in the sphere of their practice, three of this number having held the important offices of medical professors in the New Hampshire and Ohio Medical Colleges, and two of them honored with the highest literary title, of LL. D.

We have had, besides these professional men, two Gover-

nors from our town, and those who have held other responsible offices in the general and State government.

We have never lacked good material, at any time, for our town offices, the business of which has always been efficiently and correctly done.

Our present home talent is not to be disregarded, nor will it suffer in comparison with that of a century ago. "*Justitia fiat, cœlum ruat.*"

We end our record in this Centennial year with many forebodings for the future, but we trust that with the new access of railroad facilities, our beloved and ancient town is not destined to sink into insignificance. May the future historian of Peterborough find clearer fields before him, and a better record of facts to resort to, and so make a more satisfactory history than this can be. We shall be content to have our book thrust aside, when it shall be superseded by a better one.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF PETERBOROUGH,

1876.

BANKS. — First National Bank of Peterborough, Savings Bank Building: Frederick Livingston, President; C. P. Richardson, Cashier. Peterborough Savings Bank: Albert Smith, President; M. L. Morrison, Treasurer.

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, AND FURNITURE. — William G. Livingston, Grove Street; Sylvester Tenney, corner Main and Summer Streets; Asa Davis, Main Street; J. Fisher, West Peterborough; Smith Brothers, Tarbell's Block.

MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS. — Mrs. F. A. Tracy, Grove Street; Mrs. T. D. Winch, Town Hall; New York Store, Brennan's Block; Miss Evleth & Co., French's Block.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY. — John H. Steele, French's Hotel Block; Miss M. J. Nichols, Town Hall.

ICE DEALER. — A. L. Shattuck, East Street.

MILKMEN. — D. Osborn, Concord Street; J. M. Collins, Union Street; Holt & Hunter, South Peterborough; G. F. Livingston, Grove Street.

LIVERY STABLES. — H. K. French, Main Street; John Rourke, Depot Street; M. A. Smith, Union Street.

TEAMING AND JOBBING. — Townsend & Lovejoy, Main Street; A. T. Hovey, Concord Street.

MEATS AND PROVISIONS. — C. F. & G. S. Peavey, Main Street; Eaton & Shedd, High Street; W. F. Pratt, Main Street.

FISH MARKET. — E. Goldthwait, Main Street; C. Silver, Union Street.

BAKERY. — George H. Longley, Proprietor, Main Street.

REFRESHMENT ROOMS. — E. H. Pierce, Brennan's Block.

WATCHES AND JEWELRY. — A. F. Grimes, Dell M. Nichols, Main Street; F. H. Coffin, Grove Street.

DRUGS AND MEDICINES. — John R. Miller, Main Street; George L. Forbush, Grove Street.

HARNESSES AND CARRIAGE UPHOLSTERY. — E. W. McEntosh, Main Street; G. W. Ames, North Peterborough; Frank Steele (Upholstery), Concord Street.

PAINTERS. — Lorenzo Holt (Carriage), Grove Street; L. P. Wilson (House), Grove Street.

CARRIAGE-MAKERS AND WHEELWRIGHTS. — Geo. W. Farrar, Grove Street; John D. Diamond, East Peterborough.

STONE MASONS. — Asa Davis, Pine Street; John N. Thayer, Concord Street; J. W. Macomber, South Peterborough; Dennis O'Keefe, Granite Street; Thomas Scott, High Street.

BRICK MASONS. — G. W. Marden, Concord Street; William Lawrence, North Peterborough; Amasa Alexander, Union Street; P. McLaughlin, West Peterborough.

TIN-WARE, &c. — Augustus Fuller, Main Street; Nichols Brothers, Main Street.

FLOUR AND GRAIN. — J. F. Noone, Stone Grist-mill, Main Street.

HATS, CAPS, AND CLOTHING STORE. — Marshall Nay, Grove Street; John Wilder & Co., corner Main and Grove Streets.

TAILORS. — H. H. Templeton, Grove Street; Osgood & Martin, Main Street.

SHOE STORES. — F. S. Bullard & Son, W. E. Baker, W. E. Dadman, Main Street.

MARBLE WORKS. — H. Brennan, Main Street; Spline & Wallace, Pine Street.

BLACKSMITHS. — G. W. Farrar, Grove Street; E. A. Robbins, Depot Street.

PAPER MANUFACTURING. — Nay & Adams, West Peterborough; J. J. Barker, West Peterborough.

CARPENTERS. — C. E. Jaquith, Grove Street; C. H. Longley, Union Street; George B. Priest, Concord Street; A. Abbot Forbush, Union Street; Ira Forbush, Union Street; Jeremiah Pritchard, Vine Street.

HOTELS. — H. K. French, French's Hotel, Main Street; M. A. Smith, St. James Hotel, Union Street.

LAWYERS. — Scott & Clark, Counsellors of Law and Insurance Agents, Grove Street; Ezra M. Smith, Counsellor of Law, Main and Grove Streets; D. W. White, Counsellor of Law, Main Street.

PHYSICIANS. — D. B. Cutter, M. D., Main Street; Albert Smith, M. D., Concord Street; John H. Cutler, M. D., Main Street; W. D. Chase, M. D., Concord Street.

CLERGYMEN. — Rev. George Dustan, Union Congregational; Rev. A. W. Jackson, Congregational; Rev. C. F. Myers, Baptist; Rev. J. H. Hilman, Methodist; Rev. Edmund Buckle, St. Peter's, Catholic.

MILITARY. — Cheney Guards, John D. Diamond, Captain, thirty-two men; Section B., N. H. Battery, thirty men, Lieut. A. A. Forbush; Co. A., 1st Reg. N. H. Cavalry, L. P. Wilson, Captain, sixty mounted men; D. M. White, Major 2d N. H. Reg.; W. H. Greenwood, Major 1st N. H. Reg.

PETERBOROUGH CORNET BAND. — C. E. White, Leader; W. E. Davis, Treasurer; E. A. Towne, Clerk.

COTTON FACTORIES. — Phœnix Corporation, Jonas Livingston, Superintendent; Union Manufacturing Co., J. S. Moody, Superintendent, West Peterborough; Peterborough Manufacturing Co., Main Street, E. B. Hill, Superintendent.

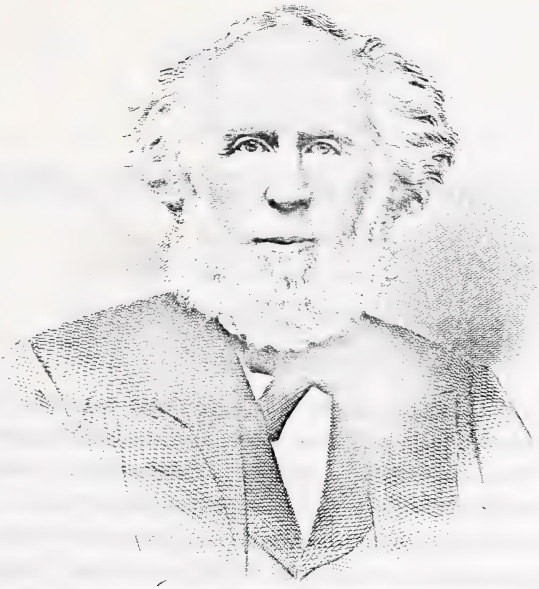
WOOLLEN MILL. — Joseph Noone's Sons, South Peterborough; R. H. Noone, Superintendent.

MISCELLANEOUS. — News and Telegraph Office, J. H. Steele, French's Hotel Block; United States and Canada Express, H. K. French, French's Hotel Block; Postmaster, John R. Miller, Town Hall; Postmaster, Justin Fisher, West Peterborough; Surgeon Dentists, S. N. Porter, Main Street; C. H. Haywood, Main Street; Peterborough *Transcript*, Farnum & Scott, Main Street; Undertaker, E. O. Willey, Grove Street; Hair-Dressing, &c., J. Gil. Fish, Main Street; Photographs, George H. Scripture, Main Street; Florist, F. F. Myrick, Grove Street; Organs and Pianos, J. M. Bruce, Grove Street; Auctioneers, Vose & Scott, Concord Street; Piano-Stool Manufactory, Joshua Briggs, Union Street; Barome-

ters and Thermometers, Charles Wilder, North Peterborough; Machine-Shop and Foundry, and Manufactory of People's Pumps, Granville P. Felt, Elm Street; Truss Manufactory, Howe & Carter, Main Street; Basket Manufactory, Amzi Childs, Main Street.

STREETS AND AVENUES.

Concord Street,	from	Main Street,	north.
Central	"	"	Vale, south.
Depot	"	"	Main, south, to School.
Elm	"	"	Union, south-west.
Factory	"	"	Winter, east.
Granite	"	"	Pine, south.
Grove	"	"	Main, south.
High	"	"	Main, north-east.
Laurel	"	"	Grove, west.
Main	"	"	Concord, north-west, to Union.
Pine	"	"	Main, south-east.
Phœnix Avenue,		"	Grove, west.
Prospect Street,		"	Union, north-west.
Summer	"	"	Main, north.
School	"	"	Grove, to Depot.
Union	"	"	Main, north-west, to West Peterborough.
Vale	"	"	Grove, to Winter.
Vine	"	"	Main, east.
Winter	"	"	Elm, south.



John H. Morison

AN ADDRESS

DELIVERED AT THE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN PETERBOROUGH, N. H.,

OCTOBER 24th, 1839.

BY JOHN HOPKINS MORISON.

ONE hundred years ago this whole valley, from mountain to mountain, from the extreme north to the extreme southern limit, was one unbroken forest. The light soil upon the banks of the Contoocook was covered with huge and lofty pines, while the rocky hills and rich, loamy lands were shaded with maple, beech, and birch, interspersed with ash, elm, hemlock, fir, oak, cherry, bass, and other kinds of wood. Bogs and swamps were far more extensive then than now; and the woods in many parts, on account of the fallen timber and thick underbrush, were almost impassable. The deer and the moose roamed at large; the wolf and bear prowled about the hills; the turkey and partridge whirred with heavy flight from tree to tree, while the duck swam undisturbed upon the lonely, silent waters. The beaver and the freshet made the only dam that impeded the streams in their whole course from the highlands to the Merrimack; the trout, pickerel, and salmon moved through them unmolested, while the old Monadnock, looking down in every direction upon almost interminable forests, saw in the hazy distance the first feeble encroachments upon the dominion which he had retained over his wild subjects for more than a thousand years.

That an attempt was made to settle this town as early as 1739 there can be no doubt. The authority of the petition for incorporation as a town, of which, through the Secretary of State, we have been favored with a copy, is on this point decisive. The town was surveyed and laid out by Joseph Hale, Jr., in 1737. Of the party that came in 1739 no memorial remains. Probably they were driven away before any considerable clearing had been made. In 1742, five men,* each with an axe and a small supply of provisions upon his shoulders, came from Lunenburg, Mass., and cleared a few small patches of land near the old meeting-house. They abandoned the settlement at, or more probably considerably before, the alarm of war in 1744. Soon after this party, three men cut down the brush and girdled the large trees on the hill near the Ritchie place, at the south part of the town, but left before they had put in their seed. They probably returned the next year, with Thomas Morison and John Swan. It could not have been later than 1744, and must have been at a period when there were no other settlers here. For it is a story often told by the children of Thomas Morison, and which cannot well be doubted, that soon after they came several Indians called upon them just after breakfast, appeared friendly, and, after tarrying a short time, went away. When the cook, however, came from chopping to prepare a dinner for the party, he found not only the pot which he had left upon the fire robbed of its contents, but all their provisions carried off; and they were obliged to go to Townsend, twenty-five miles, for a dinner; which they would not have done had there been other inhabitants here at the time.

In 1744, the town was entirely abandoned, and the settlement was not resumed till the peace of 1749. Indeed, I have found little evidence that families † had established themselves here

* The traditions are by no means distinct, and it is possible that this party came as early as 1739. They may not have stayed more than a single season. Their names, according to Mr. Dunbar (see N. H. Historical Collections, Vol. I., p. 129), were William Robbe, Alexander Scott, Hugh Gregg, William Gregg, and Samuel Stinson. John Todd, Sen., a high authority in the antiquities of our town, says they were William Scott, William Robbe, William Wallace, William Mitchell and Samuel Stinson.

The second party were William M'Nee, John Taggart, William Ritchie.

† Catharine Gregg, mother of Gov. Miller, is said to have been baptized here in 1743.

previous to that period, and this presumption is confirmed by the fact that the first male child, John Ritchie, was not born till Feb. 22, 1751. All that was done, therefore, previous to the war of '44 was only to prepare the way for the future settlement, which was commenced in earnest in 1749. From that time the colony was rapidly increased by new accessions from abroad, till, in '59, there were forty-five or fifty families, from Lunenburg, Londonderry, and some immediately from Ireland. They all, however, belonged to the same stock. They came to this country from the north of Ireland, and were usually called Scotch-Irish.

Early in the reign of James I,* on the suppression of a rebellion by his Catholic subjects in the north of Ireland, two millions of acres of land, almost the whole of the six northern counties, including Londonderry, fell to the king; and his Scotch and English subjects were encouraged by liberal grants to leave their own country, and settle on these lands, in order to keep in awe the turbulent spirits who had so often defied the authority and arms of the British government. This accounts in some measure for the hatred which the English and Scotch population bore to the Catholics, who could not but hate the men who occupied the soil from which their countrymen had been forcibly expelled. The great Irish rebellion — for they were many — which happened thirty years after, in the reign of his son, doubtless had its origin in the attempt of the Irish Catholics to extort the redress of grievances and repel religious persecution; and we may well suppose that they had not yet forgotten the transfer of their property to foreigners of a religion different from their own. The plot of a general massacre of the Protestants was discovered in the southern part of the kingdom before the time fixed for its execution; but this was unknown in Ulster, and the most cruel destruction of lives and property ensued that has ever stained the bloody pages of history. Some of the first settlers of our Derry were probably alive at the time.

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*Lingard, Vol. IX., p. 121. Hume, Vol. VI., pp. 433–6.

John Morison,* my great-great-grandfather, who died here in 1776, was born about thirty years after, but you may well suppose that vivid pictures of this dreadful time, when, according to some,† not less than one hundred and fifty thousand were victims, had been strongly impressed upon his mind.

In order better to understand these people from whom we are descended, we must remember that, in addition to those already mentioned, in the time of Cromwell, about 1656,‡ a large number of English and Scotch, mostly Scotch, were induced to settle in Ireland on lands forfeited for the Popish rebellion of 1641, or by the adherents of the king. All these circumstances must have greatly exasperated the original Catholic Irish against the foreigners who had thus been planted among them.

In 1689, James II. returned from France. His intention was to settle the affairs of Ireland. On the first alarm of an intended massacre the Protestants flew to arms, and shut themselves up in the strong places, particularly in Londonderry, where, under the command of Walker, an Episcopal clergyman, they defended themselves against the royal army. The ships sent to them with supplies were kept back by a boom across the entrance of the harbor, below the city. The French general who commanded the besiegers threatened to raze the city to its foundations and destroy every man, woman, and child, unless they would immediately submit to James. But these brave men, suffering at the time from hunger and every privation, treated the Popish general's threats with contempt. His next step was to drive the inhabitants, for thirty miles round, under the walls of the city. Among these miserable beings, exceeding four thousand in number, was the family of John Morison, then nine years old. The greater part, after being detained there three days without tasting food, were suffered to return to their habitations, plundered of everything, and many of them actually dying

* I have retained the spelling for this name which was used by his sons, Thomas and Jonathan in their signature to the petition for incorporation in 1759. It is the true Scotch orthography.

† Hume, Vol. VI., pp. 436, 7. ‡ Hume, Vol. VII., p. 268.

upon the road of hunger and fatigue. His family were admitted into the famished city. The garrison, which consisted of about seven thousand, became greatly reduced* in numbers; but their courage and constancy remained unshaken. Just when their sufferings had reached the point beyond which human nature can suffer no more, Gen. Kirk, who had deserted his master and joined King William, sent two ships, laden with provisions and convoyed by a frigate, to sail up the river. One of them, after two unsuccessful attempts, and amidst a hot fire from both sides of the channel, at length reached the wharf, to the inexpressible joy of the inhabitants.

There are now alive† those who have frequently heard this youth, when near a hundred years old, relate the most striking incidents of the siege. Standing upon the walls of the city, where he could survey at once the besieging army surrounding them, and full of a more savage cruelty than any other army had ever possessed, ready to execute their threats of indiscriminate rage and slaughter against the miserable sufferers within, the frigate and transports just heaving in sight, the foremost in full sail, with a strong wind, prepared to cut the boom. Amid a severe fire from the enemy, on both sides of the channel, she strikes against it, and bounds heavily back, to the consternation of the inhabitants. Again she advances; new hopes are kindled; she strikes, and again bounds heavily back, in full sight of the pale and starving multitude. A third attempt is made; the chain creaks and breaks. The old man could resume the boy, and describe most graphically the universal joy when the ships reached the city.

I have dwelt long on this part of the subject. For John Morison, the oldest man that was ever buried in our place, had, among our early settlers, three sons, four sons-in-law, and the numerous family of Steeles ‡ were descended from his

* Burnet says that near two-thirds of them perished by hunger. Burnet's Own Time, Vol. III., p. 20.

† This whole account I have received from his grandson, Hon. Jeremiah Smith, who remembers distinctly the tall, erect form, the engaging countenance, urbane manners, and "peculiar native eloquence," which, together with the remarkable scenes through which he had passed, made a strong impression upon the young.

‡ Capt. Thomas Steele came in 1763 from Londonderry, N. H.

sister; so that he has been connected far more extensively than any other man with our inhabitants, and may in some measure be looked back upon as the patriarch of the town.* But in addition to this, it is necessary to bear in mind the circumstances that have been mentioned, in order to understand the character of the emigrants from the north of Ireland. They have been often confounded with the Irish, and yet at the time of their emigration there were perhaps no two classes in the United Kingdom more unlike, or more hostile. Every circumstance in their history, for more than a hundred years, had served only to inflame them against each other. The original strong traits which separate the Scotch and Irish had been gathering strength through more than a century of turbulence and bloodshed, in which they had been constantly exasperated against each other by their interests, by secret plots and open rebellions, by cruel massacres, by civil wars carried on through the most black and malignant of all passions, religious hatred.

It is not, therefore, wonderful that even after the establishment of the Protestant cause by the accession of William, Anne and the house of Hanover to the throne of Great Britain, they should still have found their position in Ireland uncomfortable. They considered themselves a branch of the Scotch Presbyterian Church, and, though permitted to maintain their own forms of worship unmolested, a tenth part of all their increase was rigorously exacted for the support of the established Episcopal Church. They also held their lands and tenements by lease, and not as the proprietors of the soil.† They were a religious people, with an inextinguishable thirst for liberty, and could not therefore bear to be trammelled in their civil and religious rights.

For these reasons, and influenced particularly by the representations of a young man named Holmes, the son of a clergy-

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* By marriage, or direct descent, he has been connected with the families of Steele, Wilson, Smith, Wallace, Moore, Mitchell, Todd, Jewett, Gregg, Ames, Holmes, Gray, Field, Stuart, Little, Swan, and probably some others, without including the last generation.

† See Century Sermon, by Rev. Edward L. Parker, of Londonderry, p. 7. See also Farmer's Belknap, p. 191.

man, who had been here, four Presbyterian ministers,* with a large portion of their congregations, determined to remove to this country. They belonged not to the lowest class in the country from which they came, but perhaps to the lower portion of the middling class. They had the cool heads which their fathers had brought from Scotland, and doubtless counted well the cost of the step they were about to take. It required no small strength of character to leave a country where they *could* live quietly and in tolerable comfort for an untried region, with an ocean between, and a full prospect before them of the labors and sufferings incident to planting a new country with slender means. In the summer of 1718, they embarked in five ships for America.† About one hundred families arrived in Boston ‡ Aug. 4th; and twenty families more, in one of the vessels, landed at Casco Bay, now Portland. Among these were three of the families, Gregg, Morison, and Steele, who afterwards settled in Peterborough. The vessel had intended to put in at Newburyport, but arrived at Casco Bay so late in the season, that she was frozen in, and they, unable to provide more comfortable quarters, were obliged to spend the whole winter on board, suffering severely from the want of suitable accommodations and food. It is said that on first landing upon that cold and cheerless coast, the wintry ocean behind them and naked forests before, after the solemn act of prayer, they united in singing that most touching of all songs: "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down; yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion"; and with peculiar feelings, as they surveyed the waste around them, and remembered the pleasant homes which they had

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* Holmes, James M'Gregore, William Cornwell, and William Boyd. The Federal Street Church in Boston was founded by this same class of emigrants.

† From a manuscript left by Rev. James M'Gregore, and seen by Mr. Parker, it would appear that he preached to them on leaving Ireland, stating distinctly that they were coming to America in order "to avoid oppression and cruel bondage; to shun persecution and designed ruin; to withdraw from the communion of idolaters, and to have an opportunity of worshipping God according to the dictates of conscience and the rules of his inspired Word."

‡ They brought with them, according to Dr. Belknap, the first little wheels turned by the foot that were used in the country, and the first potatoes planted in New England; which from them have ever since been called *Irish* potatoes.

left, might they add: "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?"

They left Casco Bay early in the spring, and began their settlement in Londonderry, April 11, O. S., 1719. The people of the neighboring towns, supposing them to be Irish, harbored strong prejudices against them, and wished to have them driven out from the country. Soon after they began their settlement in Londonderry, a party from Haverhill, headed by one Herriman, came, in order forcibly to expel them. It was on Friday afternoon, and the settlers, with their wives and children, had come together under an old oak, to attend, according to the good old Presbyterian fashion, the lecture preparatory to the communion, which was to be administered the following Sabbath. Herriman stopped his party and listened till the services were over, when, deeply affected by what he had seen and heard, he said to his followers, "Let us return; it is vain to attempt to disturb this people; for surely the Lord is with them."*

In September, 1736 or '37, another party came over from Ireland. Among them were the Smiths, the Wilsons, and Littles. Mrs. Sarah M'Nee, or, as she was called, old Aunt Nay, who died within my memory, aged ninety-seven, or, as some supposed, one hundred years, was one of this party, and used to relate, with much satisfaction, that as the vessel approached the wharf in Boston, a gentleman there, after inspecting them closely, said, "Truly, these are no poor folk; and," she always added, "he was an awfu' great gentleman; for he had ruffles on his fingers." It † was noised about that a pack of Irishmen had landed, and they were much annoyed by the observations that were made upon them. "Why," said one, with evident surprise, "these people are white." "So they are," said another, with not less astonishment; "as white as you or I." "It made my blood boil," said the elder William

* This account I have taken partly from Mr. Parker's sermon, and partly from the lips of John Todd, Sen.

† For this I am indebted to my great-aunt, Sally Morison, who, though always feeble, and for many years an invalid, retains now, in her eighty-fifth year, a very perfect recollection of what she heard more than seventy years ago.

Smith, who was then about eighteen years old, "to hear ourselves called a parcel of Irish." The prejudice subjected them to a more serious inconvenience, and rendered it difficult to procure lodgings. They, however, succeeded in getting a Mr. Winship, in the east part of Lexington, to take them for the winter. His neighbors, especially during the intermission on Sundays, would crowd around him and remonstrate loudly against his harboring these Irishmen. At last he would listen no longer, but told them that if his house reached to Charlestown, and he could find such Irish as these, he would have it filled up with Irish, and none but Irish.

The spring or summer following (1737), they came to Lunenburg, Mass., from which place, and from Londonderry, small parties, as we have seen, came out between '39 and '49 to make a settlement in Peterborough. The township had been granted by the General Court of Massachusetts, on the supposition that it was within their limits, to Samuel Haywood * and others, but soon after was transferred to the famous Jeremiah Gridley, of Boston, John Hill, John Fowle, and William Vassal, who were become the sole proprietors of the soil. Under purchases made from them the first settlements were made, and the town is said to have taken its name from Peter Prescott, of Concord, Mass.

Till 1749, almost nothing was done. It is impossible to say how many came then; but from that time the growth was rapid. The hardships of the first settlers cannot be understood from anything that is now experienced by the pioneers in our Western territories. Being recently from a foreign country, they were unaccustomed to the axe, and by no means acquainted with the best method of clearing away the timber; and yet, here they were in the midst of an unbroken forest, to which alone they must look for support. The gloom and loneliness of the place, the hollow echoing of the hills and woods as the first tall pine fell groaning by their side, the sound of strange birds and insects, the dismal creaking and

* The petition for incorporation (Oct. 31, 1739) says, . . . "in consequence of a tract of land had and obtained from the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, by Samuel Haywood and others, his associates," etc.

howling among the trees upon a stormy night, connected with what they had heard of destructive beasts and snakes, and the frightful acts of Indian cruelty which were going on all around them, must have made an impression upon them which we can hardly conceive. Add to these the superstitious fears, the religious awe, that overcame them as they stood here, apart from the civilized abode of man, and it will not seem strange if again and again they abandoned what they had begun, even from imaginary fears, and withdrew that they might, for a season, be within the sympathy and security of an older settlement. A single incident will show the constant apprehension under which they lived. About twelve o'clock, on one of those autumnal nights when the moon, rising late, hangs with a sort of supernatural gloom over the horizon, the family of William Smith were suddenly startled from their sleep by shrieks of murder in the house of their nearest neighbor. Immediately, without waiting to put on a single garment, the father and mother, each with a child, left their log-hut, and forcing their way, no one could ever tell how, more than two miles through the woods, arrived at the log-house of her brother, near where the South Factory now is, and spread the alarm that they had barely escaped with their lives from the Indians. Capt. Thomas Morison, who was a man of greater martial coolness than his brother-in-law, after supplying them with clothes, joined them, with his own wife and children, one an infant, and after hiding them in the woods south of his house, set out for the fort, about a mile further south, saying, as he left them, that if he should meet the enemy before reaching the fort they would know it, because he should certainly have time to fire, and kill at least one man before he should himself be killed or taken. Meanwhile, the Swans, another family at the south, had taken the alarm and fled for the fort. Soon after, a younger Swan, returning home at that late hour, from what to young men is a very pleasant as well as important business, and finding his father's boots and clothes by the bedside, and the house deserted, ran out almost frantic, and spread the report that his whole family had been murdered and carried away by the Indians. The consternation was

general and intense; and it was not discovered till morning that the whole panic was occasioned by some thoughtless young men at Mr. Cunningham's, who had screamed and shrieked simply to frighten their neighbors, the Smiths.

This incident, trifling as it is, shows the constant apprehension in which our fathers every night retired to their beds; and yet they were brave men. About the same time with this alarm, perhaps the following summer, a report was spread here that the Indians had fallen upon the settlements at Keene. Immediately Capt. Morison with his company set out, and in the heat of summer marched more than twenty miles through the woods to rescue their brethren from an enemy of unknown strength, who seldom spared a foe. Upon arriving at Keene, the men there were found mowing peaceably in the field, and so much were they affected by this act of kindness, that they could not refrain from weeping.*

Such was the continual fear of midnight fire and murder from the Indians for twenty years from the commencement of the settlement, being several times, as their petition says, driven off by the enemy, and "many of them almost ruined." "Yet," to use their own affecting language, "what little we had in the world lay there; we, having no whither else to go, returned to our settlement as soon as prudence would admit, where we have continued since, and cultivated a rough part of the wilderness to a fruitful field."

But aside from the apprehension of danger, they surely had difficulties and hardships enough. Till 1751, they had no grist-mill, and were obliged to bring all their provisions upon their shoulders five-and-twenty miles. For many years there was not a glass window in the place. Their dwellings were miserable huts, not a board upon or within them till 1751, when three frame-houses were erected. Most of the frame-houses first made, were poorly built. In one,† considerably later than this, when the family had gathered round the table, the floor suddenly gave way, just as the good man was asking

* This was told me by his daughter, Elizabeth Morison.

† The house was William Moore's, and William Smith, Esq., the man who was asking the blessing as they sunk.

a blessing, and the whole party, dinner and all, found themselves in the cellar. The first meeting-house,* which must have been erected as early as 1752 or '53, for several years was furnished with no other seats than rough boards laid loosely upon square blocks of wood. For a long period there were no oxen, and still later no horses. The first mill-stone used was drawn, in 1751, more than a mile and a half by seventeen men and boys. Their food was meagre in kind, and not often abundant in quantity. Bean porridge, potatoes, and samp (corn) broth were, for the first twenty years, the principal articles of diet. The women vied with the men, and sometimes excelled them, in the labors of the field. There was no bridge till 1755, and the roads were fit only for foot-passengers. But notwithstanding their privations and hardships, with insufficient clothing and almost without shoes, except in the severest weather, the first settlers lived to an unusually advanced period, and the three oldest people that have ever died in the place were natives of Ireland, and among our earliest inhabitants.†

Such was the condition of the town for the first twenty years after its settlement. About that period many new comforts began to be introduced. Oxen became more common. The richer part of the inhabitants might be seen going to meeting on horseback, the good man before, his wife on the pillion behind, while at noon the children would gather round, with almost envious eyes, to admire this curious and sumptuous mode of conveyance. All marketing was done with a horse. Butter was carried by tying two casks together, and placing them across the horse's back like panniers. In this way the wife of Major Wilson often carried her spare articles to Boston, while her son James was in Harvard College, between the years 1785 and '89. The first chaise was introduced in 1793, and the first one-horse wagon in 1810.

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* It was thirty feet square, and stood a little to the east of what we call the "old meeting-house," which was raised in 1777. During the raising, a deep gloom was thrown over the whole assembly by the arrival of a courier, who announced that our troops had left Ticonderoga, and that a new levy was called for. In 1760, the first meeting-house was enlarged by an addition in front, considerably broader than the main body.

† John Morison and Sarah M'Nee, who died in their ninety-eighth, and Mrs. Cunningham in her ninety-ninth year.

Few things could have given our ancestors more annoyance than their extreme awkwardness in the mechanical arts.* For this reason their houses must have been loose, cold, and deficient in almost every article of domestic convenience. Jonathan Morison † was the first, and for a considerable time the only, mechanic in town. He was a mill-wright, a blacksmith, a carpenter, a house-joiner, a stone-cutter, a gun-maker, and had the reputation of being really a workman at all these trades. He was the son of John Morison, and was considered the most gifted of the family, being a man of quick parts, great ingenuity, and generous in the extreme, but unfortunately possessed, what is too often the curse of superior endowments, a violent temper, and a want of self-control, which led sometimes to intemperance. To crown his misfortunes he had a wife who, in all but his bad qualities, was the opposite to himself. A separation took place when he removed to Vermont, where he lived for some time. He finally returned to Peterborough, and was killed by a fall from his horse in 1787. The second and third mechanics were William Cochran and James Houston, both blacksmiths. From these small beginnings we have gone on till now there is hardly a product of the mechanic arts, belonging either to the comforts or elegances of life, which may not here be furnished.

The first use made of our water-privileges ‡ was for a saw and grist-mill, on the spot where the Peterborough Factory now stands. It was built by Jonathan Morison, in 1751. This was an important event to the neighboring towns, which for several years brought all their grain to this mill. It was built for William Gordan, of Dunstable, Mass., and passed through several owners into the hands of Samuel Mitchell,

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* This was well taken off by Uncle Mosey (as every one called him) in his account of Deacon Duncan's hewing, and Deacon Moore's ladder. "As I was ganging," said he, "thro' the woods, I heard a desprite crackling, and there I found a stick of timber that Deacon Duncan had hewn, sae crooked that it could na lie still, but was thrashing about amang the trees. I tauld him that he must go and chain it doun, or it wad girdle the hail forest."

"Deacon Moore," he said, "made a ladder, and it was sae twisting, that before he got half way to the top he was on the under side, *looking up*."

† The first male child born in Londonderry.

‡ For a very full and exact account of this part of the subject, see, in the Appendix, the reports prepared by John H. Steele.

in 1759. The grist-mill was usually tended by his wife, and it was thought could hardly be a source of much profit; for she would take no toll from the poor, and when her customers were there at meal-time, she would constrain them to partake of her fare, and often to remain through the night. The second saw-mill, where a saw and grist-mill now stands, near the South Factory, was built by Thomas Morison in 1758, and the grist-mill added in 1770. The race-way to these mills is through a ledge of a sort of trap-rock, on which it is extremely difficult to make any impression by blasting with gun-powder. Besides, the use of gun-powder for blasting seems to have been unknown here at that time. Large fires were therefore built upon the ledge, and when it was heated, water was thrown on. This scaled or cracked the rocks; all that was loosened was removed, and the same process repeated till a sufficient depth was gained.*

At this period (1770), log-huts were little used; substantial frame-houses, many of them two stories high, had been erected,† and, though hard labor and a homely fare were their portion, our people perhaps enjoyed as much then of the real comforts of life as at any subsequent period. Robust health, and confirmed habits of industry and exposure, enabled them to enjoy what would now be esteemed intolerable hardships. Four bridges had been built across our two principal streams;‡ the roads had greatly improved; there were no longer apprehensions of danger from the Indians or wild animals. I cannot well picture to myself happier domestic scenes than might then be found in one of those spacious kitchens which some of us have seen, though not in their glory. The kitchen stretched nearly across the house; at one end was the ample *dresser*, filled up with pewter platters and basins of every size, all shining bright, and telling many a

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* There are now in town six grist-mills and seven saw-mills.

† Hugh Wilson moved into the first two-story house, in 1753. The first brick house was built by Nathan Richardson, in 1811 or '12; the second by Jonas Loring, in 1815. The whole number now in town is twenty-three.

‡ The first near the great bridge in 1755; the second across Goose Brook previous to 1760; one at the North, and one at the South, Factory in 1765, by labor from the town.

story to the beholder, of savory broths,* and Indian puddings, and possibly of pumpkin pies, even. The fire-place, which seemed to reach through half the length of the room, and was four or five feet high, not only contained, between its capacious jambs, logs two or three feet in diameter, and almost sled length, heaped one above the other, with the proper accompaniments of fore sticks and small wood; but back in one corner was an oven big enough to receive the largest pots and pans in which beans and brown bread ever were baked; and in both corners, under the chimney, was room for benches, where the children might sit on a winter's evening, parching corn, while the huge, green back-log and back-stick were simmering and singing, and three or four little wheels, with various tones, were joining in the concert; and the large cat upon the wide, stone hearth, interrupted occasionally by a gruff look from the dog, was industriously purring out her part of the accompaniment. There by the blazing fire, for it would have been extravagance to burn any other light, the children sit, with attention divided between the stories and the corn, and the young people, stealing now and then a sly glance or joke at the expense of their elders, burst out often into a chorus of laughter, as their fathers, with grotesque humor, narrate the hardships and strange adventures of their early settlement, or dwell upon their favorite theme, the wonders of the old country, and especially "the preëminence of Ireland," against which all their anger is now forgotten. At length the time for retiring has come; apples† and cider, after taking their station for a time upon the hearth, are served up. And now (for the guests, though neighbors, are expected to remain till morning) a candle is lighted, the big Bible is brought out; the oldest man receives it with reverence, and after singing a portion of the Psalms, from their

* Broth (barley or corn) was the favorite food. It is said that one of our eminent men, when a boy, wished that he could only be a king, for then he might have broth every day, and as much as he wished.

† The first apple-tree in the town was set out by John Swan, and is still alive. Apples must have been seldom used in the way I have mentioned, so early as 1770. The first cider was made by Mrs. John Smith. The apples were pounded in a barley-mortar, and pressed in a cheese-press.

Presbyterian or Scottish version, to such tunes as "Dundee," "Martyrs," "Coleshill," or "Elgin," and reading a chapter with a voice of peculiar and unaffected solemnity, all join in prayer, and the elder people withdraw. Now is the time for the young. No longer with suppressed laughter, but with loud and boisterous merriment, the evening is prolonged. The call from the sleepers, whose slumbers they have broken, produces only a momentary check. How long they sit up nobody knows; but before light the young men are gone, for they must spend the day in the woods. The common mode of neighborly visiting among the women was to go in the morning, carrying with them, not unfrequently a mile or more, their little wheels, and returning before dark; thus enjoying all the advantages of good-fellowship, without loss of time.

This period of quiet, however, was of short duration. The difficulties with England soon began. Our fathers were too zealous in their love of liberty to remain indifferent spectators at a time like that. They entered warmly into the dispute. Private feelings were merged in their anxiety for the public good. News of the Lexington battle fell upon them like a sudden trump from heaven, summoning them to the conflict. "We all set out," said one who was then upon the stage, "with such weapons as we could get, going like a flock of wild geese, we hardly knew why or whither." The word came to Capt. Thomas Morison at daylight, that the regulars were upon the road. In two hours, with his son and hired man, he was on his way to meet them, they on foot, he on horseback, with a large *baking* of bread, which had just been taken from the oven, in one end of the bag, and pork in the other. This is but a sample of the general spirit which spread through the town, among men and women. "I was willing," said an old lady, whom I was questioning about those times, her pale cheeks kindling as she spoke, "that my father and brothers should run their chance with the rest." "I will not taste your tea," said another woman, this same day; "I would as soon drink a man's blood."

At the battle of Bunker Hill, though there could not have

been more than seventy or eighty families in the town, twenty-two of our citizens were present, and seventeen actively engaged in the fight. The night after the battle information was brought to Major Wilson,* who then commanded the company, that the British were advancing upon the American lines, and at break of day every able-bodied man in town, with such weapons as he could procure, was on the march. At Townsend, those who went on foot heard the result of the battle and returned;† and then the old men, who had sons in the battle, set out to learn whether their children were yet living, and had acquitted themselves like men.

Seventeen days before the Declaration of Independence, the following resolution was signed by eighty-three of our citizens, which included all the strong men, except those who were in the army, and possibly one or two besides:—

"In consequence of the Resolution of the Continental Congress, and to show our determination in joining our American brethren in arms, in defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the United Colonies,

"We, the subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our power, at the risque of our lives and fortunes, with ARMS oppose the hostile proceedings of the British fleets and armies against the United Colonies."

It has always been a matter of wonder to the world how our American Congress, which had no legal authority, whose strongest enactment was nothing more than a recommendation, should dare to make the Declaration of Independence, and, still more, be able to carry out their measures through a long and discouraging war. The secret of their success is contained in the resolution which I have just read. It was the spirit which pervaded the people in their individual capacity, that nerved their arm and gave them strength. It was the solemn engagement and promise of the people, "at

* This anecdote is told me by his grandson, Gen. James Wilson, of Keene, who had it from his father, James Wilson, Esq., who was born in this town, 1766, and died in Keene, January, 1839.

† The greater part, however, were on horseback, and proceeded as far as West Cambridge, where they broke into a large, vacant house, and passed the night.

the risque of their lives and fortunes, with ARMS, to oppose the hostile proceedings of the British fleets and armies," that enabled Congress to take and carry through those strong measures which have been the admiration of every student of history. And in privations and hardships, that school of stern and manly virtues, in which not only here, but throughout the United Colonies, men were brought up, may we not see the hand of God stretched out to provide them with courage to declare, and strength to maintain, their rights? that while He was elsewhere raising up men to direct the councils and lead the armies of the nation, He was here, and in places like this, making ready the strong nerves, the hard muscles, the unflinching souls, to fight the battles that should set them free. "He found them in a desert land, and in the waste, howling wilderness; he led them about, he instructed them," and when the great day had come, through the discipline which he had imposed, they were found equal to their work.

It is impossible now to paint the anxieties which prevailed through this little town during the war. Their remoteness from the scene of action, while it lessened their dangers, by no means diminished their fears. Rumors of terrible defeats and slaughters, of victories that had never been gained, and battles that were not fought, swayed them back and forth with doubts more cruel than the worst certainty. They were constantly in the dreadful expectation and suspense that precedes the conflict, and tries the soul more sharply than the hottest fight. No stranger made his appearance but the town was full of surmises, suspicions, and strange reports. He must be stopped, examined, and, when fairly gone, suspicions were again afloat. The sufferings of those left behind were greater than of those in the war. It is sufficient, however, to say that our citizens nobly redeemed the pledge they had given at the commencement of hostilities. During the war there were no mobs against the Tories, for there was not a man here who favored the British cause.

Of our political history I shall say little. The terms on which the original settlement was made, were such that no

provincial * meeting could be held, or vote passed, "obliging any person to do any part towards supporting the gospel, building a meeting-house and bridges, clearing and repairing roads." The act of incorporation was passed, Jan. 17, 1760. These corporate townships are a peculiar feature in our government, and, so far as I know, have received only from a single author † anything of the attention which is due to so important a subject. Townships, with their peculiar rights, sprang, as I suppose, from the form of church discipline which was originally introduced into New England. Being composed entirely of the people, they contain in themselves all the elements of a pure democracy, and exercise all the functions of a more extended government. They are the schools in which young men are educated for higher offices, and in which all may be taught their duty as citizens. But the great purpose which they answer is, that they serve as a barrier against the encroachments of the State and federal governments.

A great danger in every government is, the centralization of power. For this reason only that which relates to the whole nation in its federal capacity should be placed in the hands of the general government; and only that which relates to the whole State should be placed in the hands of the State government. All that remains should be left with the towns, and, as a matter of fact, nine-tenths of the real, effective legislation in New England is performed by the towns. They raise the taxes, support the schools, roads, bridges. The parts of our general government which tend most to the centralization of power, and from which we have most to apprehend, as they, more than all others, tend to corruption, are the revenue and post-office departments. Now, were it not for our townships, the same influence which pervades those departments would take to itself, as it does in Prussia, the control of our roads, our schools, of all the taxes that are raised; and there would be at the heart of the republic an accumulation of power with which no government on earth can be safely

* See petition for incorporation. † De Tocqueville.

trusted. To prevent this dangerous result, we have in the first place our State governments, and then, what is of far greater importance, our town governments, which hold in their own hands more than nine-tenths of the real power which, so far as they are concerned, belongs to government.

Our town government, from the commencement, has been efficient and liberal. The town-meetings in old times were often stormy, and ended in small results.* At all times of great party warfare in national politics, the contest here has been warm; and it has been well for the town, that while the same party, the conservative, has prevailed in every severe trial, it has, at all times, been confronted by a large and respectable minority. The severity of the contest kept alive the interest; it obliged men to examine and to think; and though, when parties are nearly equal, the temptation to gain a momentary triumph by dishonest artifice is sometimes too great to be resisted, the consciousness on each side that they are closely watched, and cannot escape detection and exposure, will, where higher considerations fail, make them peculiarly circumspect in their movements. While the strong character of our citizens has done much to make political contentions severe since the first formation of parties under the federal government, the nearly equal division of parties has done much to sharpen the intellects, and restrain, if it did nor correct, purposes grossly unjust.†

The ministerial history of the town is the darkest page in our calendar; but those whose feelings might be injured are now gone, and it is time that the subject should be placed in its true light. A Presbyterian minister, by the name of Johnston, came with the first settlers, and tarried with them about a year. Another by the name of Harvey, whose wife was the first person laid in the old graveyard, was here for a time.

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* An old man returning, many years since, from town meeting was asked what had been doing. "Oh," said he, "there was George Duncan, he got up and spakit awhile, and Matthew Wallace, he got up and talkit awhile, and Matthew Gray, he got up and blathered awhile; and then they dismissed the meeting." A fair account of many town meetings.

† Party spirit in politics has, perhaps, in no town been more violent than here, but it has never been permitted to disturb the cordiality of social intercourse.

A Mr. Powers supplied the desk in 1764. This is all that we know of them. John Morrison, of a family entirely distinct from our first settlers, was born at Pathfoot, in Scotland, May 22, 1743; was graduated at Edinburgh, Feb. 17, 1765; arrived at Boston the May following, and was ordained at Peterborough, Nov. 26, 1766. From all that I can learn he was a man of decided talents; but it must be borne in mind, that the same ability will appear always more conspicuous in a bad than in a good man, just as a horse or a building of perfect symmetry will always appear smaller than another of the same dimensions whose parts are out of proportion. But after making all due allowance, we must, I believe, conclude that Mr. Morrison possessed more than common powers, for good or for evil. But soon he proved himself an intemperate, licentious man, dangerous alike as the companion of either sex. A charitable construction was put upon the first symptoms of intemperance. At a party he was found unable to walk, and it was necessary to take him through the room where the young people were collected, in order to place him upon a bed. This was managed with so much adroitness, that no suspicion was raised, except with three or four church-members who were disposed to view it as an accident, at a time when similar casualties were not uncommon. But soon, while his bad habits in this line became notorious, his evil passions in another direction flared out, to the general scandal of the town. A presbytery was held; he was suspended from his office for two or three months, a thing probably to his taste, as his salary was *not* suspended. At length, however, the people could no longer tolerate him; he relinquished his connection with the society in March, 1772; visited South Carolina, returned and joined the American army at Cambridge in '75. He was present at Bunker Hill, but excused himself from entering the battle, on the ground that his gun-lock was not in order. The next day he joined the British, and continued in some capacity with them till his death, which took place at Charleston, S. C., May 26, 1782. He became a professed atheist. It is said that he spent his last days, when he was daily sinking to the grave, among profli-

gate, abandoned associates, taking his part in every species of dissipation which his decaying strength would permit; and just before his death gave a sum of money to his companions, requesting them to drink it out upon his coffin. His wife, Sarah Ferguson, in every respect a true, exemplary woman, never, to the time of her death, November, 1824, aged eighty-four, lost either the interest or the confidence with which she had first joined her fortunes to his. It is refreshing to add, that their son, John Morrison, who died more than forty years ago, was, by the uniform consent of all who knew him, one of the most pure-hearted and clear-headed men that our town has produced. I have never heard him mentioned by one who had known him except with strong affection and respect. He received his education at Exeter, where for a time he was also a teacher. When, many years after, I went to Exeter, and was there in a very humble employment, a friendless, ignorant boy, the fact that my name was the same with his had, I have no doubt, a very considerable influence in bespeaking for me unusual kindness on the part of my employer,* who had been his early friend.

From 1772 to '78 our people had no settled ministry. The meeting-house was built in '77, and traditions are handed down respecting a Mr. Clarke, who was preaching here at the time. Many who heard him testify that the following is nearly an exact account of the exordium to one of his discourses. "This is a stately house; and who meet here? The folk, they meet here, and the de'il, he meet here too; and he is amang the foremost and the fattest† o' ye. An' he's peeking at ye, like a wee mouse in the wa'; ye dinna see him, but he kens ye. An' now where is the gun to shoot him wi'? Here it is," said he, lifting up the Bible and taking aim, "here is the gun. *Too! too!* he's deed, he's deed." The preaching of that period was usually without notes, the sermons very ordinary, very long, and made up very much of repetitions, especially of a continual play upon the words of the text.

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* Joseph Smith Gilman.

† This, it was thought, might apply to Deacon Mitchell and his wife, as he was usually foremost, and she the fattest in the assembly.

The second settled minister of the place, David Annan,* was born at Cupar of Fife, in Scotland, April 4, 1754, came early to America, was educated at New Brunswick College, N. J., was ordained for Peterborough, at the call of the people here, by the Presbytery which met at Wallkill, N. Y., October, 1778, and was dismissed from this society at his own request, by the Presbytery of Londonderry, at their June session here, in 1792. He was deposed from the ministry by the Presbytery of Londonderry in 1800, and died in Ireland in 1802. The people received him with high expectations, and were slow to believe anything against him. Though in talents inferior to his predecessor, he was a man of more than common endowments, but was intemperate and morose, uniting in his character the extremes, which sometimes meet in smaller tyrants than Nero, of levity and cruelty. With the elders of the church he was stern, inflexible, and austere. With young men his conversation was loose, licentious, corrupt. He was easily flattered, but being opposed, haughty and overbearing. When *treated to toddy* at a public house by a man of no good repute, he expressed himself delighted with his companion, and wished he had a whole church like him; and when one of the most upright of his society† attempted in private and with great kindness to remonstrate with him on his conduct, his only reply was, "It is a wise people that can instruct their minister"; "and a foolish minister," it might have been rejoined, "who cannot be instructed by his people." Rev. Mr. Miles, of Temple, used to relate, that once on coming to his house to exchange with him, he found him sitting at a table with a fiddle, made by his own hands, a bottle of rum and a Bible before him. In his own house he was the severest of tyrants. His wife, an amiable, discreet, patient, uncomplaining woman, often retired at night amid actions and

* His brother, Robert Annan, was first at Wallkill, N. Y., then pastor of the Federal Street Church in Boston, then of a society in Philadelphia, where he died. He was a man of uncommon power and of great austerity.

† Henry Ferguson, a thoroughly excellent man. Not one of the name is now among us. Three of the sons removed to South Carolina, where the last of them, having accumulated a large property, died within a few years.

threats which left to her scarcely a hope that her life would be spared till morning, and sometimes she passed the whole night with her children in the woods. After the birth of their last child his conduct towards her and her children was so brutal that it could no longer be borne. She fled from his house with her child, and a petition for a bill of divorce, on the ground of extreme cruelty, was granted at once by the court, with a feeling almost of horror at the disclosures then made.

The only organized mob, of which I find any evidence in our history, was against Mr. Annan. Just at the time of his wife's flight with her child, when stories were spread through the town, and every one was burning with indignation, the young men who were collected at a ball, talking over the circumstances till they had wrought themselves into a perfect rage, determined to take the matter into their own hands. Blacking their faces with soot, disguising themselves in every uncouth dress, and provided with a rough spruce pole, at the dead of night, in the autumn of 1799, they knocked at the door of Mr. Annan's house, and when he, suspecting no harm, came to them as if from his bed, three* of the strongest among them seized him, placed him upon the pole, and the whole party, with shouting and howling, the tinkling of cow-bells, the blowing of horns and pumpkin-vines, carried him a full half mile, and threw him into a muddy pond. An attempt was made by Mr. Annan, who always after went armed with pistols, to bring the rioters to justice. Writs were issued against them, and had he possessed a single friend, he might have succeeded. But nothing could be proved; the feelings of those who had been most severe against him began to relent, and they looked with pity on the solitary, friendless, dejected old man.

The provocation in this case undoubtedly was great. But never, we may safely say, in a well organized society, can an emergency arise where individuals may be justified in taking

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*"What do you want o' me?" he inquired, sternly. "Only a little of your good company," was the reply from a young man, whose name has since been known through the United States (Gov. James Miller, from whom I received the account).

upon themselves that which belongs to the natural retributions of Providence and the authorized laws of the land to inflict. It may pain and vex us to see the oppressor go untouched; but sooner or later punishment will overtake him, and we know not how severely he may suffer at the very moment when he seems most happy.

Mr. Morrison and Mr. Annan were the only settled ministers in the place for fifty years. Two questions naturally come up: How could such men be tolerated so long; and how could religion be kept alive under such instructions?

They were tolerated, in the first place, because of the great veneration which was then attached to the profession. "Ministers," said one, at the commencement of the difficulties with Mr. Morrison, "are edged tools, and we maun aye be carefu' how we handle them." "Keep yoursel' to yoursel'," said an elder of the church, with great solemnity, to his son, who was beginning to intimate that Mr. Annan was not what he should be. Another reason which made many, and those among the most rigid disciplinarians, more tolerant than they would otherwise have been was that the ministers, though wrong in practice, were yet sound in faith; and error in belief was esteemed far more dangerous than in heart or life. This doctrine of antinomianism was then carried to a degree of extravagance which finds no sympathy now. An illustration may be given. A Mr. Taggart, one of the straightest in faith, but who was intemperate in his habits, had a remarkable gift in prayer, and this gift was rather increased than diminished by the exhilaration of ardent spirits. At funerals, where there was no minister, he was usually called upon to pray; and sometimes when unable to stand would kneel by his chair, and edify the assembly by the readiness and fervor of his devotions. Henry Ferguson once met him lying in the road, and after helping him up told him that this conduct was inconsistent with his place in the church. "Ah," said he, "but we are not our own keepers." Some time after, Mr. Ferguson was nominated an elder, and Mr. Taggart, on the strength of this conversation, publicly opposed him as a man who trusted entirely to works. These two reasons, in their

influence upon some of our own people, and still more upon the presbyteries with which they were connected, together with the personal influence of Robert Annan, who was a strong man in the church, will sufficiently account for the long infliction upon the patience and moral feelings of the community.

The next question, How could religion be kept alive under such circumstances, is readily answered. Our people were always readers, and the Bible was almost their only book. Here they went for counsel and support. It was, to them, prophet and priest. With all their reverence for the public ministrations of religion, their reverence for the written word was far greater. In the next place, the practice of family prayer was faithfully observed. Morning and evening the Scriptures were read; and if the flame of devotion burnt dim in the house of public worship, it was not permitted to go out upon the family altar. Besides, they had preachers more powerful than man. They were strangers in a strange land, in the midst of perpetual alarms and dangers; sickness, death, and all the vicissitudes of life entered their dwellings in the wilderness, and through its loneliness spoke to them as they never can speak in a more cultivated place. They had, before coming here, been well imbued with the principles of religion; and, besides, the human soul is so constituted that it cannot live and be at peace without a religious faith. Rites and ordinances are an important means of advancing the cause of religion. But they are not all. God has never left himself without witness among men. The success of his word does not rest upon a mortal priesthood. Religion is an essential want of the soul, deeply fixed in its nature. Men may stifle its cravings, may, for a time, suppress them, and unhallowed servants at the altar may help to keep them down. But they cannot be destroyed until the soul itself is crushed. Religion, dishonored by its ministers, degraded by the false ideas that have gathered round it, can never be banished, so long as these human hearts, beating with hopes, anxieties, and fears, look round upon a world of change and weakness, and find nowhere here the object that fills up their wants.

The church thus far had been Presbyterian. After Mr. Annan left, the late Rev. Zephaniah Swift Moore was invited to remain, but declined, not wishing to settle as a Presbyterian. After he left, a paper was handed round and signed by all, or nearly all, the church, expressing a willingness to settle Mr. Moore in the Congregational form; but he, in the meantime, had found another place, and the town continued without a settled minister till Oct. 23, 1799, when Rev. Elijah Dunbar was ordained. Originally the church had belonged to the Londonderry Presbytery. At the settlement of Mr. Annan, by his request, it received a dismission from this and joined the New York Presbytery. When Mr. Dunbar was settled, that Presbytery had become extinct, and the church here was left an independent body. It then adopted the Congregational form, and though there were still some who preferred the Presbyterian mode, all attended upon his ministry, with the understanding, however, that once a year the communion should be administered by a Presbyterian, and in the Presbyterian manner. For many years the Rev. Dr. Wm. Morison, of Londonderry, administered the ordinance every autumn. It was always a day of uncommon interest; the house was crowded; and though but a child when he last came, I well remember the solemnity and awe with which I was impressed by the countenance, accent, and manner of that aged and faithful minister of Christ. Mr. Dunbar, with unsullied character, remained the minister of the town till June 19, 1822, when a portion of his people who had never liked the Congregational form, and others who had never been quite at ease under an Armenian preacher, withdrew and formed the Presbyterian society. Mr. Dunbar continued pastor of the Congregational society till February, 1827. He was succeeded, in June of the same year, by Rev. Abiel Abbot, D. D., who had preached in town a short time, thirty years before, and who is still the pastor.

The Presbyterian Church was built in 1825, about half a mile north of the old meeting-house, and during the present year has been removed to the village. Rev. Peter Holt was installed pastor, March, 1827, and resigned, March, 1835.

Rev. Mr. Pine was installed, June, 1836, and dismissed, January, 1837. Rev. Joshua Barret was pastor from February, 1837, till February, 1839.

The Baptist Church was constituted, November, 1822, containing forty members. Rev. Charles Cummings was the first pastor; Rev. Mr. Goodnow, from June, 1831; Rev. George Daland, from March, 1834, till 1836; Rev. John Peacock, one year, from September, 1837, have been the ministers. Rev. J. M. Willmorth, the present pastor, was settled September, 1838.

There has been for some years a Methodist society; ;and the Universalists have sometimes had preaching in the Congregational meeting-house.

Of our public schools, important and vitally connected as they are with all the better prospects of our country, my limits will allow me to say but little. From 1760 till 1797, the annual appropriations were small, never more than one hundred dollars, seldom fifty dollars, and often nothing. I do not find that any school-houses were erected by the town before 1790, when the town was divided into five districts, and provision made for the erection of five buildings.* From 1797 to 1805, three hundred dollars were annually raised for schools, except in 1801, when the appropriation was but two hundred dollars. From 1805 to 1808, four hundred dollars were raised annually; and since then the town has uniformly raised what the law required, and, I believe, no more, except that, for a few years past, one-half the literary fund, about seventy-five dollars per annum, has been given to aid the feeble districts. The school-tax now, and it has not materially varied for several years, is eight hundred and eighty-one dollars and thirty-six cents.

The condition of the schools, public and private, during the last, and the first twenty years of the present, century, was

* There were school-houses long before this, which had been erected by neighborhoods. In the same way schools also were supported. The public appropriations give a wrong idea of what has actually been paid for this purpose. The sum now paid for private schools is at least equal to what is paid by the town. There are now in town eleven districts, each with a brick school-house.

decidedly bad. Some improvement has been made since then; and great credit is due to the spirited exertions of a few individuals in different parts of the town. Still, for I should pervert the purposes of this day, if I stood here only to flatter or to praise, *the subject has not received the attention which its importance demands, and our public schools do not take the place that we should expect, from the general intelligence of our citizens.* They are peculiarly the property and province of the whole people, by whom they live and prosper, and without whose hearty assistance and coöperation committees and teachers can accomplish nothing. All who take an interest in the welfare of their children or of society will not be slow to do what can be done for these, the true nurseries of a nation's mind. They will not grudge to the teacher his hard-earned pay, nor forget to do at home that which alone can render his labors easy and effective.

Our libraries demand a moment's attention. There had been, previously, a library of a similar character; but as early as 1811, the Peterborough Social Library was gotten up, containing not far from one hundred volumes. So judicious a selection I have never seen. There was hardly a book which did not deserve its place. I well remember the astonishment with which, at the age of eleven, I first looked on what seemed to me such an immense collection of books; nor can I soon forget the uniform kindness with which my early reading was encouraged, and in some measure directed, by the librarian, Daniel Abbot. In an intellectual point of view, I look back on no period of my life with so much satisfaction, as on the two years when, at the age of fourteen and fifteen, I lived with Samuel Templeton, as honest a man as this or any town has ever produced. During the hour which he always gave me at noon, and in the evening by fire-light, I read the standard histories in our language, and made myself acquainted with the important events of the ancient world. When a volume was finished, I would set out at dark, after a hard day's work, walk three miles to the village, and, enriched with a new treasure, would return almost unmindful of the woods and their near vicinity to the graveyard and old meeting-house,

which, especially on a wintry, autumnal night, standing there naked, black, and lonely, was, as I know full well, a fearful object enough to a child. The Peterborough Social Library became gradually neglected, and was sold about 1830, when a new library on the same plan was gotten up, and contains now about three hundred volumes. The Union and Phœnix Factories have each a library of about one hundred and fifty volumes. The Ministerial Library (an excellent institution) contains five hundred, and the public town-library about nine hundred volumes; so that, besides private collections, there are now in town, for the use of readers, two thousand volumes.

One word let me here say to the young. These schools and libraries are for you. All that is most valuable in education is within your reach. Many have been the bitter but unavailing regrets of those who, despising these precious advantages in youth, have found themselves, as men and women, ignorant and incompetent to the great duties that were before them. The busiest day has intervals of rest, and he who is in earnest for knowledge will receive it. Let your leisure moments be sacredly devoted to the improvement of your minds. You might not covet the honors of a professional life, if you knew its painful watchings, anxieties, and toils; but as you value the esteem of others, or your own happiness, as you would do your part to carry on the progress of the world, as you would be useful and respected in manhood, and escape a leafless, neglected, old age, do not fail now, while the time is, to use every means that is held out for your intellectual advancement.

Another subject of much interest in our history I can but just sketch out. Early in our history, the hand-card, the little wheel, and the loom with the hand-shuttle, were almost the only instruments of manufacture in the place. The grandmother of Gov. Miller paid for four hundred acres of land in fine linen, made entirely, except getting out the flax, by her own hands. With the exception of hats and the wedding gown, which was usually of satin, and handed down as a sort

of heir-loom to children and grandchildren, even three generations not unfrequently being married in the same dress, all the articles of clothing were manufactured at home. There the wool was carded, spun, woven, colored, and made up into garments. The hides were indeed sent away to be tanned; but the same hides were brought home as leather, and the shoemaker came always to the house, with his bench, lasts, and awls. To use foreign goods was considered, as indeed it was, great extravagance. After the first store was opened here, in 1771, one hundred pounds of butter was the price usually paid for a calico gown. Almost every article of food and clothing was then prepared at home. The first clothier's shop, for taking in wool to card and cloth to dress, was built by William Powers, in 1780, and this was the only factory in town till 1793; when, on the spot now occupied by the Phœnix Factory, "a* wooden building two hundred feet long, and two stories high, was erected by Samuel Smith, and was the wonder of the whole country. Mr. Smith had in this building a paper-mill, a saw-mill, an oil-mill, a clothier's shop, a trip-hammer shop, a wool-carding machine, and a dwelling-house." This bold step gave the first decided impulse to the manufacturing enterprise of the place. It brought into notice the great water-privileges that were here possessed. The first cotton factory for the manufacture of yarn was started in 1810. And from that time to this, one after another place has been taken up, until the capital vested in and upon the different water-privileges — not forgetting the peg-mill, in which twenty-five hundred bushels of shoe-pegs are made annually — is now estimated at three hundred thousand dollars; the cotton factories alone producing, annually, one million seven hundred and twenty-five thousand yards of cloth; and the amount of property annually imported and sold in our stores, it is estimated, cannot be less than seventy-five thousand dollars. With this change there has been a great influx of

* I have received from John H. Steele, Esq., a very full and exact account of all our manufacturing establishments from the beginning, which, in a condensed form, may be found in the Notes.

people from abroad; the habits and pursuits of the town have undergone an important revolution.*

But with all this show of enterprise and prosperity there is danger. Our young women, the future mothers, who are to form the character of the next generation, are not educated as their mothers were, at home, in comparative solitude, where the mind had leisure to mature, and the affections to expand, but are taken from their homes, work together in large companies, and board in crowded houses. It is surely a solemn responsibility that rests upon the owners and agents of these establishments. Thus far, their conduct has been marked by generosity and high principle. But it is well for all to be awake; for the operatives to remember that they have rights and duties for themselves beyond the mere comforts and luxuries of an animal life. They have minds, they have hearts, which require to be clothed and fed, and unless now, in season, they provide for their intellectual, moral, and spiritual wants, for the support of a refined intelligence, a modest but true moral independence, we shall repent the day that has clothed our bodies with improved garments, but left us with inferior minds, — with souls robbed of their pure affections, lofty freedom, and immortal hopes.

The notice of our early history would be incomplete without some scattered facts of a different character. Our ancestors, with all the rest of the world, believed in the bodily manifestation of the devil, in the existence of witches, and the appearance of ghosts. It is not my purpose to do anything more than relate what they believed. A small, lean, aged woman, by the name of Stinson, was uniformly regarded as a witch. A cat somewhere in town was observed to act strangely, hot water was thrown upon her, and straightway Mrs. Stinson's back was dreadfully afflicted with the St. Anthony's fire. On another occasion, a good man near

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*A post-office was established in town about 1795; John Smith was the first postmaster. A Mr. Balch first carried the mail. William Thayer was carrier from 1803 to 1807. He was succeeded by Daniel Gibbs, who for many years rode on horseback from Portsmouth to Brattleboro once a week. At last he rode in a little wagon, and carried a few passengers. He was killed in 1824, by falling from a bridge. He was succeeded by his son. Stages began to run in 1826 or '27, and now a daily stage each way is crowded with passengers.

Sharon shot at a crow many times, but the bird only flew round and laughed at him. He at last took off a silver sleeve-button, and with it broke the crow's wing; whereupon Mrs. Stinson was found with a lame arm. At her funeral, which was about fifty years ago, though she was hardly more than a skeleton, the strong men who bore her to the grave were almost crushed to the earth by the weight of sin, and their shoulders remained for weeks black and blue.

There was also one Hannah Scott, who supposed herself bewitched by an old woman named Aspy, of Hancock. The girl lay more than a month without the power of opening her eyes, any more than she could open a part of her cheek. While in this state, she could tell exactly who were passing, how they looked, what they had with them, and what was going on in different houses, and in different parts of the town. She always said that if old Aspy would come and bless her she should recover. The witch came, and passing her hands over the girl's forehead, with the words, "Your God bless you and my God bless you," ended the charm. This, it will be seen at once, is but the counterpart of what has recently taken place under the name of Animal Magnetism.

All this was religiously believed. And we in our day have known one* who, to his dying hour, firmly believed that he had twice been honored by a personal interview with the devil. Old Baker — what child in Peterborough within the last sixty years has not danced to his fiddle, with an ecstasy which no other music ever gave? Who does not remember the benevolent, complacent smile with which his honest, black face and white teeth and eyes shone, as raising his instrument to his chin, and producing the first sweet notes, he looked about on the delighted children that were listening or romping round him? But when we knew him, "the

* Baker Moore, a colored man, born in Boston, 1755, bought as a slave and brought to this town by Deacon Moore, in 1763. At the age of twenty-two, he purchased his freedom for two hundred dollars, which he never felt obliged to pay, nor was it exacted. He died January, 1839. There have been in this town eight slaves; two, Baker and Rose, belonging to Deacon Moore; two to David Steele; two to Samuel Alld; one to Isaac Mitchell; one to Capt. Robbe. There may possibly have been others.

minstrel was infirm and old," and now he is gone, — light may the turf rest upon his bosom. Such men are like fossil remains and petrifactions, which preserve the exact lineaments of plants and animals centuries perhaps after the living species has become extinct. Their minds receive in youth the impressions then current, and there remain fixed through life; so that Baker, in these matters, may be considered a fair sample of the belief which prevailed sixty or seventy years ago. It was seldom that he could be induced to speak upon the subject, and then with symptoms of terror which it would be difficult to describe. I remember, however, to have heard him once, after casting round a fearful look to be sure that the doors were shut, and the evil spirit not actually in the room. As he was driving the cows to pasture, he said, one evening he met a man who very kindly accosted him, and in the course of the conversation told his fortune, mentioning things that no mortal could have known. He gave him a book, with the request that he would read it. Baker took the book; but it hung like lead upon his spirits. He carried it constantly with him, for he was afraid to leave it behind, and at last, having met "the man" again on horseback, in the north-west part of the town, he returned the book; whereupon the man's eyes glistened like fire, his cloven foot appeared, and he was terribly angry. Baker looked up a moment after and he was gone. All this our good friend as much believed as he believed in his own existence, and it is but a fair sample of what our fathers also believed. One man, William M'Nee, had horse-shoe nails driven into the horns of all his cattle, to save them from the witches, and it was generally believed that horse-shoes, witch-hazel rods, and silver, were effectual securities against their influence.

Another singular fact may be here added, to illustrate this part of their character. William Robbe — his mother was always supposed to have saved the life of the elder William Smith, by sucking the wound made by a poisonous snake in Lunenburg, and both he and his parents were modest, excellent people, — William Robbe was a seventh son; and it was

generally thought that certain diseases could be cured by him. He was not a quack; receiving pay destroyed the charm. He gave a small silver coin to those who came. The visits became so numerous that he left the town, in consequence, and went to Stoddard; but, being unfortunate there, was obliged to return, and bear the onerous duties which the accident of being the seventh son imposed upon him. The belief in his power was general, and borne out by reputed facts, which we cannot here stop to examine or even specify.

I would now speak of the characteristics of our inhabitants. In the first place, they have been always distinguished for their mental activity, and love of knowledge. The original emigrants from Ireland were by no means an ignorant people. They were brought up in the common school education of the day, and most of them were imbued with the religious education then more common in Scotland and the north of Ireland than in the sister kingdom of England. What was wanting in outward instruction was, in some measure, supplied by their own intellectual energy and zeal. The respect which has always been paid to learning may in part be understood from the number and character of our educated men. Thirty-two* have graduated at our different colleges. James Wilson, for a time Representative in Congress, and Jonathan Steele, a Judge of the Supreme Court, were widely known. Nor must we omit the name of Jesse Smith, who, having graduated at Dartmouth College in 1814, studied medicine with Dr. George C. Shattuck, of Boston, and afterwards established himself in Cincinnati, where, as a professor in the Medical College and a practitioner, he stood decidedly at the head of his profession. He died of the cholera in 1833, universally lamented, having fallen a victim to his humane and fearless

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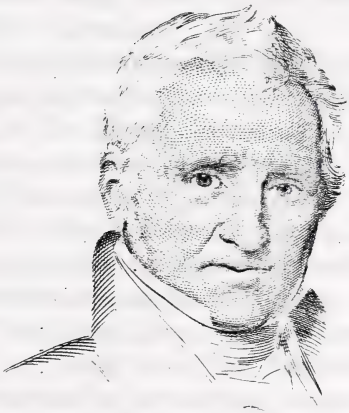
* Jeremiah Smith, 1781; James Wilson, 1789; Walter Little (name changed to Fullerton), 1796; John Wilson, 1799; Stephen Mitchell, 1801; Reuben D. Mussey, 1802; John Stuart, 1804; William Ritchie, 1804; Stephen P. Steele, 1808; Charles J. Stuart, 1809; James Porter, 1810; David Steele (son of Gen. David), 1810; Jonathan Steele, 1811; Isaac P. Osgood, 1814; Jesse Smith, 1814; David Steele (son of Gen. John), 1815; Joseph Brackett, 1815; Charles White, 1816; Amasa Edes, 1817; Jonathan Smith, 1819; James Wilson, 1820; Albert Smith, 1825; John H. Morison, 1831; Josiah Ballard, 1833; Artemas L. Holmes, 1835; Solomon Laws, 1836; Horace Morison, 1837; Nathaniel Holmes, 1837; Oren B. Cheney, 1839; Nathaniel H. Morison, 1839; Bernard B. Whittemore, 1839; David Youngman, 1839.

exertions for the suffering, during the ravages of that frightful pestilence.

Among the educated sons of Peterborough is another, yet happily numbered with the living, who was your first choice for the task which I am now laboring to perform. I cannot but regret that it was out of his power to accept your call; for there is no man alive so intimately acquainted with our history, or so well able to do justice to the character of our people. He was born Nov. 29, 1759; his father, William Smith, perhaps the best-educated of our early settlers, and who was a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1774, was a man of singular discretion, modesty, and goodness; and his mother, the daughter of John Morison, was a driving, energetic woman. He was one of seven sons,* all, except one who died before his strength was brought out, uncommon men. Until recently, for the last sixty years, they have had here an influence possessed by no other family, and have done more than any others to form the character and advance the prosperity of the town. Seventy years ago, if we may trust to one who then knew them well, a more rude, uncouth, impudent set of boys was not to be found in Peterborough. Very early, however, Jeremiah's enthusiastic love of knowledge began to act. But the facilities for learning within his reach were greatly inferior to what may now be enjoyed by the poorest and most neglected child among us. There were no books to be had; and the schools were wretched. I have heard him speak of going, when a small boy, three or four miles to procure the loan of some ordinary volume, and the tears of disappointment with which he often came away from his teacher's blundering explanation of subjects which he was longing to understand. But never yet did the youth, urged on by an unquenchable desire to know, stop short through outward obstructions. They only quicken his zeal, and give new energy to his powers. So was it with our townsman. At the age of twelve he began to study Latin at the public school, which was then kept in the old meeting-house, by Mas-

* Robert, John, William, James, Jeremiah, Jonathan, and Samuel.



F. Alexander D. Humphreys

JEREMIAH SMITH.

ter Rudolphus Greene. After this, he studied for a short time with a Mr. Donovan at New Boston, and then with Rev. Mr. Emerson, of Hollis, where he began Greek, and finished his preparation for college. He entered Harvard College in 1777. Just at this time, he enlisted for two months in the service, was present at the battle of Bennington, where a portion of his gun was shot off in his hands, and a musket-ball grazing his throat left its mark there for many years. He left Cambridge in 1779, and was graduated at Rutgers College, N. J., in 1781. He now began the study of the law in Barnstable, Mass., 1782, '83, spending, after this, a year at Andover and two years in Salem, filling at each place the office of teacher, in connection with his studies.

He began to practise here as a lawyer in 1787, was a member of our Legislature three years, during which time he revised the laws of the State. Previous to this time, Peterborough had been notorious for its lawsuits, and furnished no small portion of the whole litigation of the county. These foolish disputes he always discountenanced, sometimes cooling down his angry client by pleasantry, and sometimes dissuading him by more serious considerations. It was the opinion of our most intelligent people at the time, that the town might afford to pay Jerry Smith five hundred dollars a year, simply for his influence in preventing lawsuits.

But a wider field was opening. In 1791, he was chosen a Representative to Congress. To this office he was appointed at four successive elections, and, continuing in it through nearly the whole of Washington's Administration, he resigned during the Presidency of the elder Adams, after the May session of 1797. Here it was his privilege to become acquainted with the great men of the time; with Washington, with John Adams, with Jefferson and Madison, with John Jay, John Marshall, Samuel Dexter, and Fisher Ames, during the interesting period when the French Revolution was breaking out with the suddenness of a new volcano. Upon leaving Congress, he was appointed United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire, and soon after, while holding this office, was made Judge of Probate for the County of Rocking-

ham, having in the meantime removed to Exeter. In 1801, he was appointed Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States, and during a part of the year 1802 was at the same time Judge of Probate, Judge of the United States District Court, and Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire. He continued Chief-Justice till 1809, when he was chosen Governor of the State. He returned to the bar in 1810; in 1813 was again made Chief-Justice, and continued in this office till 1816, when he withdrew from public life. In 1820, he gave up his practice at the bar. It is not my purpose, nor am I competent, to speak of the ability, learning, uprightness, and independence with which the duties of these high, various, and responsible offices were discharged. His acts, are they not written in the chronicles, and themselves an important part of the public history, of our State? The assaults of party violence are over; and they who were once the most earnest to assail are now among the foremost to acknowledge his intellectual vigor, great learning, and, above all, the spotless purity of his character as a public man. It is not for such as I to praise or censure him. The verdict has been made up by his peers; and if they are to be trusted, his name will be handed down as one of the two most able and accomplished public men that New Hampshire, during the first two centuries of her political existence, has produced.

In this our great family meeting, may we not indulge in the expression of personal feeling? Especially, may not a younger brother speak of what he owes to one full of honors as of years, whose heart is with us, though he be not here? From my childhood up, I have been the creature of kindness, and should I die with the consciousness of having done no other good than to have called out the kind acts which have been extended to myself, I shall go down to the grave feeling that I have not lived in vain. There are others towards whom the fulness of my gratitude can be known only by the Searcher of all hearts. But for them, I should not now be among the living. What I should have been without him I almost tremble to think. Just standing upon the verge of life, with principles unformed, with a yearning, indeed, for

knowledge, which had followed me like some mystic spell from my earliest recollections, hoping and yet despairing, with no claim but inexperience and helplessness, I received from him all the kindness that a father could give. Dull, indeed, must I have been, if I have not profited from the richness of his mind and the advantages which his aid has placed within my reach.

I have dwelt on this example, not for the purpose of gratifying private feelings, but because it is the brightest illustration that our town has furnished to the young, of a really great intellect strengthened and adorned by a finished education. When I see such a man, and feel his strength of mind, the richness and variety of his intellectual stores, his vivacity and wit, and, more than all, his utter scorn for everything mean or dishonest, I forget the offices through which he has passed. They have borrowed much, but added little to the dignity of the man. And the elements which have made him what he is belong peculiarly to the Peterborough mind, and may be seen, less clearly developed indeed, in many of our citizens.

But while the intellect of our people is shown in the number and character of educated men that have gone from among them, it is shown still more in their general character. I might select many among those whom I have personally known, who, if not polished so as to bring out all the shades and rich veins of intellect, have yet been sufficiently cultivated to show minds capable of grasping strong thoughts, and acting upon the most important interests of public and private life. Many excel them in every species of intellectual refinement, in the taste for poetry, the fine arts, and the niceties of literature. But in sterling good sense, in close and severe reasoning, in solid information, especially in acquaintance with the standard works of history, theology, and some branches of philosophy, the people of few towns are superior, if indeed, as a whole, they are equal, to those who have lived here for the last twenty or thirty years. Like every place, it has those who recognize no such thing as purely intellectual tastes and wants. But thanks be to heaven they are few, and

their influence in the town has been only to make men shun their example. Our young men, kindling with nobler hopes, look to other quarters for instruction.

The next remarkable feature of our town during the past century has been courage. It was shown by our fathers in Ireland, and has not deserted their sons. As a people, they have never shrunk from peril. At the first sound of danger, their custom has been to fly to the scene of action. So was it in the Indian and French wars, in which, when there were not in town more than forty families, six of our citizens were slain in a single day.* So was it after the news of the battle of Lexington. Of the seventeen engaged at Bunker Hill, one man, John Graham, remarkable for his skill in throwing stones, after exhausting his ammunition, unwilling to retire, seized upon stones and hurled them, not without effect, against the enemy; another, John Taggart, after fighting as long as it was possible to fight, in the retreat stopped his companions while yet in the midst of danger, and, when they had refreshed themselves from their canteens, exclaimed, "Neu let us trust in God and tak the tother run." Randall McAlister was severely shot through the neck; Thomas Green, in a fainting and almost expiring state, was saved by his friend Gilchrist, who carried him on his back from Bunker Hill to Medford. Lieutenant (afterwards Captain) William Scott, early in the action, had one of the bones of his leg broken just below the knee. He continued coolly paring musket-balls and handing them to his soldiers. He was among the very hindmost in the retreat, when he received in his thigh and the lower part of his body four additional balls, and, bleeding at nine orifices, fainted upon the field. When he came to himself, a British soldier was standing over him, with his bayonet, and asked with an oath if he did not deserve to be killed. "I am in your power," was the reply, "and you can do with me as you please." He was rescued by a British officer, and permitted to remain unmolested upon the field through that night. The next morning he

* In a ranging company commanded by Robert Rodgers, in 1757. See Farmer's Belknap.

was taken to Boston, and thence to Halifax, where he was imprisoned. With a gimblet, a bayonet, and an old knife, furnished by a friend without,* he, and six of his companions broke the prison, and by the help of that same friend got on board a vessel, and reached home the following August. He set out immediately for the American army, which he joined on Long Island, was taken with two thousand others at the capture of Fort Washington;† but the night after, tying his sword to the back of his neck, and his watch to his hat-band, he swam a mile and a half to Fort Lee, upon the Jersey shore, eluding the vigilance of the British frigate that had been stationed there to guard the prisoners. He continued in the army till after the retreat of Lafayette before Cornwallis, and from that time was engaged upon the ocean.

The same intrepidity which he had shown in war continued in peace. The following is from the Boston *Independent Chronicle*, of July 12, 1792, under the head of news from Philadelphia, July 2d. After stating in general terms a terrific tempest that occurred the day before, and some of the accidents caused by it, they add: "Since writing the above account, we further learn that a boat from this city to the Jersey shore was overset within fifty rods of Samuel Cowper's wharf. There were in the boat Captain Scott, Mr. Blake, his wife, and four small children, a young woman, and Mr. Betis — in all nine persons,— none of whom could swim but Captain Scott. The captain, by the most astonishing and praiseworthy exertions, was able, providentially, to save them all. He swam ashore with one child hanging to his neck and one to each arm, and he returned to the boat amidst the boisterous waves raging in a furious and frightful manner, and brought the others, who had, with much difficulty held by the boat, safe to land."

The editor of the Boston paper adds: "For the honor of Capt. Scott, an old and valiant soldier, a son of Massachu-

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* John Morison, Esq., the brother of Thomas and Jonathan. He lived in Nova Scotia, was a Whig, and like others of the family, not being able to keep his opinions to himself, became suspected, fled from the British Provinces, and lived for a time in Peterborough.

† November 16, 1776. See Holmes's Annals of America, Vol. II., p. 251.

setts, this circumstance should be handed down to posterity. Those who revere the virtues of the benevolent Howard must ever remember with veneration the successful exertions of Capt. Scott."

He fell at last a sacrifice to a higher spirit than can ever be shown by mere courage in the field. "In 1793, he went in the suite of Gen. Lincoln, to settle a treaty with the Six Nations of Indians at or near Sandusky, where his health was impaired. In 1796, he was connected with a party in surveying lands on the Black River, near Lake Erie, and in the vicinity of the smaller lakes. They were attacked by the lake fever, and he returned with a division of the sick to Port Stanwix. Finding it difficult to procure any to go back after the sick persons left behind in the wilderness, he determined to go himself, though strongly dissuaded by the physician, who affirmed that he could not return alive. 'I think I shall,' was his reply, 'but if not, my life is no better than theirs.' He succeeded in his benevolent attempt, but died on the tenth day after his return, at Litchfield, N. Y., Sept. 19, 1796, in his fifty-fourth year."*

This instance, which by no means stands alone in our history, may serve to illustrate the courage which has been always a prominent feature in the character of our citizens. And it has run through their whole character, distinguishing alike their habits of thought, of social intercourse, of public and private enterprise. In whatever they have undertaken, they have gone forward with the same fearless spirit. If at any time a man has had hard thoughts of his neighbor, he did not whisper it about in private scandal, but the offender was the first to hear it. There has been no secret, underhand dealing, but their voices were always loud,† their gait erect, their conduct open. While ready to maintain their own and their neighbors' rights, they have also, it must be

* See N. H. Historical Collections, Vol. I., p. 135.

† Loud talking has always prevailed here; and at least in one case served an important purpose. At Bennington, the company belonging to New Ipswich and Peterborough were surprised by an ambuscade of Tories, when Lieut. Cuningham, of Peterborough, cried out with the voice of a lion, "Bring up those four hundred men," which put the Tories to flight, and left an open passage to the main army.

acknowledged, never been backward in proclaiming their own merits. Yet they have not been a conceited, boasting race, but men who knew their strength, who judged correctly of their merits, and would not suffer others to destroy or impair their just appreciation.

Closely allied to this was another prominent trait in their character. They were always a high-minded, generous people. Though poor, they were never mean in spirit. Sometimes, indeed, a foolish pride has been among them. It is related of the wife of the oldest John Morison, that when her husband was building his first habitation in Londonderry, she came to him, and in a manner unusually affectionate, as is sometimes the custom of wives when they have a great favor to ask, said, "Aweel, aweel, dear Joan, an it maun be a log-house, do make it a log heegher nor the lave" (than the rest). A portion of this spirit may have come down to some of her descendants, and perhaps to a few who are not her descendants. But if they have had a little sprinkling of this, they have also been marked by a true loftiness and generosity of soul, which in all their trials has not forsaken them. It mingled with their courage in war. We have seen how prominent it was in the character of Scott. And in the last war, when our townsman made himself conspicuous in the eyes of the nation, by his coolness and gallantry, in the most perilous enterprise ever ready to "try," and to succeed where he tried, he gained the confidence of his soldiers and townsmen, by his humane, and generous attention, even more than by his unquestioned military ability and courage.* The same spirit of liberality guided their intelligence in politics. When it was proposed in our Legislature to give some assistance to Dr. Belknap, who was then preparing his invaluable history of the State,

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* James Miller, son of James and Catharine Miller, born in 1776, began to practise law in 1807, and was appointed Major in the U. S. service in 1808. The family from which he sprang lived in the north-east corner of the town, which seemed cut off from the rest. James Miller, Senior, and a twin brother inherited a farm together, which they lived upon fifteen or sixteen years, enjoying the produce in common, with no exact division of labor or the fruits of their labor. The whole family were remarkable for simple-hearted truth and kindness, and at the same time great manliness and courage. Gen. Miller's history after entering the U. S. service is too well known to be given here.

the Representative of a neighboring town objected, saying that he would as soon support an appropriation for the purchase of Tom Thumb. The next morning your representative,* in the presence of the House, gave to him a copy of Tom Thumb, adding that it afforded him much pleasure to be able to make the gentleman a present so appropriate in size and character to the liberality which he had shown the day before. In their influence, great or small, in high or in low stations, upon the councils of the State or nation, our people, as a body, have always been on the side of a liberal, generous policy, whatever might be its effect upon their private interests. The same may be said of their conduct as a town. The whole amount of their property at the present hour would not probably exceed five hundred thousand dollars; yet the amount of taxes this year (and for several years past they have varied little) is four thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight dollars and twenty-two cents. If to this we add nine hundred dollars paid for the support of private schools, one thousand five hundred for the support of public worship, and remember that of three hundred and eighty taxable polls only two hundred and six, and many of them by no means the most competent, contribute anything towards the maintenance of religion, we certainly must conclude that our citizens now are by no means backward in their contributions for public objects. In addition to the usual taxes, in 1825 fourteen thousand dollars were raised, without great effort, for the erection of churches and school-houses, and in roads the town has been liberal almost to excess.

The same spirit has been even more conspicuous in private donations. Losses by fire have sometimes been more than made up to the sufferers by voluntary subscription, and generally he whose house has been burnt has hardly borne a greater share of the loss than many others, in proportion to their means. Nor has this liberality been confined to cases

* John Smith, Esq., whose sudden death in 1821 threw a gloom over the whole town. He perhaps united in himself all the characteristics of our town in a more remarkable degree than any other man, joining to the gushing emotions of a child, strong powers of thought, integrity, courage, and an infinite fund of wit.

of want; but it has often happened that when, by the sudden providence of God, a portion of a man's goods has in this way been destroyed, many whose property was less than what remained to him have cheerfully contributed to make up his loss. There have been, we all know, and still are, mean men among us, but I do not believe that in the history of the town a single instance can be found in which a mean act, public or private, has been for a single day countenanced by the general feeling of the community. It has been my privilege, beyond the lot of most men, to reside among high-minded, generous people, but I have never lived in a place where, in thought, speech, and conduct, there has been so general a detestation of what is paltry and little as in my native town.

The same spirit has been carried into their quarrels and enmities. Who has ever heard in Peterborough of a sullen, Indian-like hatred, cherished for years or even weeks, watching stealthily for the opportunity of revenge; or of a fawning dislike, veiling itself under the semblance of friendship till the secret stab might be given? They have been impetuous in their feelings, and have given way too readily to the impulse of anger; but the cloud passed quickly off. The storm was too violent to last. They who have quarrelled to-day are to-morrow the more earnest to do each other a kind act; and acts of neighborly kindness in the common intercourse of life have been a leading feature, from the earliest settlement of the town. It has made an important part of the good-fellowship of the place; and if the kind office had not its intended effect, instead of going sulkily away and determining to do so no more, they enjoyed it as a good joke, and were quite as ready to repeat the act when a new occasion might require it. A man who had not been long in town was poor, lazy, and shiftless; the neighbors came together and mowed his grass, leaving it for him to do the rest. "It is very light," said the old man, after they went away, "very light; worth mowing indeed, but not worth mowing and raking too," and so he permitted it to lie upon the ground. They were not angry, but simply laughed at his awkward excuse, and for

aught that I have heard to the contrary may have mowed and raked his hay, too, the year following.

This brings me to what has, perhaps, from the beginning been their *one* trait, standing out from all the rest; I mean their love of fun. The sun would go down before I could tell half the stories we still have which might illustrate this point.* No occasion, no subject, was kept sacred from their wit. The thoughtless and the grave, the old and the young, alike enjoyed it. When Capt. Scott had been pierced by five bullets, and his life almost lost, he said the minister had prayed in the morning that their heads might be covered in the hour of battle. "His head," he added, "was safe enough, but the prayer should have extended to the rest of his body."† Relatives and friends were never spared, when they offered a good subject for laughter, but were rather dealt with the more freely. From the cradle to the grave there was no circumstance which at one time or another did not administer to their mirth. Even their superstitions had in them a mixture of drollery that took much from their terror. The bird that was bewitched "only laughed" at the man who shot at it. They who believed most fully in the reality of the account, and who never doubted that Satan was actually present at the scene, could yet, with shouts of laughter, tell how, at a certain place, when Mr. Morrison and Mr. M'Lellan, another minister, were there, the evil spirit came, and the bed on which a young woman lay actually rose from the floor, and the ministers, terribly frightened, called upon each other to pray, and Mr. Morrison would not pray, but at the prayer of Mr. M'Lellan the spirit was driven off. Our fathers were serious, thoughtful men; but they lost no occasion which might promise sport.

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* Moses Morison, the prince of story-tellers, usually manufactured his stories for the occasion. The wit consisted in a wild and comical exaggeration of real facts, and was the offspring of a prolific fancy. It had, however, an unfavorable influence; for though these stories were told and heard merely as romances, the habit of exaggeration thus produced was likely to extend itself to more serious matters, so that strict verbal accuracy has been too little regarded.

† A story has been told, which, though perhaps without foundation as a matter of fact, may yet show the extent to which they often indulged their wit in serious matters. The story is, that when they were first forming a church, almost every one propounded was set aside on account of some objection (particularly intemperance), till it became doubtful whether a church could be established, when one of their number rose, and gravely said, "If God chooses to have a church in this place, he must take such as there be."

Weddings, huskings, log-rollings, and raisings, — what a host of queer stories is connected with them!

At weddings* seventy years ago, the groom usually proceeded from his dwelling with his select friends, male and female. About half-way on their progress to the house of the bride, they were met by her select male friends. There each party made choice of a champion to run for the bottle to the bride's house. The victor returned to the party with the bottle, gave a toast, drank to the groom's health, passed round the bottle, and the whole party proceeded, being saluted by the firing of muskets from the houses they passed, and answering the salutes with pistols. When they arrived at the bride's house the groom was stationed upon the floor, the father led his daughter, dressed usually in white satin, and delivered her up to the groom, and the rest of the ceremony was performed nearly as at the present time. The evening was filled up with all imaginable sports, and closed with a ceremony which it will hardly do now to mention. This is the way in which our grandparents were married.

The other merry-meetings then common, I cannot stop to describe. Huskings, log-rollings, apple-parings, and raisings,† most of those now in middle-life have seen; and as they think of the new cider, the smoking Indian puddings, and huge loaves of brown bread, such as our grandmothers made, with perhaps a whole quarter of mutton, and pork and beans, smoking also from the same oven, and followed by

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* The first notice given in town publicly of intended marriage was in 1749. William Ritchie agreed with Alexander Robbe, for half a pint of rum, to give notice of his intentions, which he did by nailing the publishment to a beech-tree near the old meeting-house. The first oral notice (which mode prevailed for a long time) was given thus by Alexander Robbe: "Marriage is intended between Joan Robbe and Betty Creighton. If ony man or man's man has ony objections, let him speak neu, or forever after haud his clash."

The above, with other curious particulars relating to our early history, was furnished me by John Todd, Jr.

† At the raising of the third two-story house (in 1764), all the men, women, and children of the town were gathered together. After the sills were levelled, prayers were offered, and a psalm sung. Seventeen gallons of rum had been provided, and none of it remained the next morning, except half a pint, which had been stealthily put aside. At a training, much later than this, a barrel of rum was placed upon the field, and the head knocked out, so that each, without loss of time, could dip from it what he wanted. Before night an express was sent for more. One man, on returning home, said they had had an excellent training, and he believed they were to have more of it the next day, "for he saw many of the soldiers lying upon their arms."

pumpkin, apple, and mince pies, such as they also made, not thin, depressed, or all outside, but thick and plump, and remember the jokes, the plays, the peals of merriment, and the sound night's rest that followed, their childhood and the dawning hopes of life rise again; the father and the mother, the brother and the sister that are gone, come before them, and what would they not give to renew but for once those ancient times? But they cannot be renewed, and we must soon follow them into the pale and shadowy past, and be known here among our native hills only as a memory more and more dim, till it shall vanish clean out.

But I may not dwell on subjects like these. Our ancestors dearly loved fun. There was a grotesque humor, and yet a seriousness, pathos, and strangeness about them which, in its way, has perhaps never been excelled. It was the sternness of the Scotch Covenanter softened by a century's residence abroad amid persecution and trial, wedded there to the comic humor and pathos of the Irish, and then grown wild in the woods among these our New England mountains. I see in them and their genuine descendants the product of the heaths and highlands of Scotland with their border wars, of the rich, low fields of Ireland with their mirth and clubs, modified afresh by the hardships of a new settlement and the growing influence of a free country.*

In nothing here was the Irish character more visible than in the use of ardent spirits.† When the entrance of death‡ into the little colony had suspended the sound of the axe, and a strong arm was laid low, all the people gathered together at the house of mourning, and through the long, dark, dismal night watched by the body of their friend. The eldest and

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* See Notes, No. 1.

† I had thought our ancestors an intemperate people, but it was not so. Some never drank; but there were loose men who would always, when an opportunity offered, get intoxicated, and be quarrelsome. The great body of the people were not in the constant habit of using inebriating drink; but on great occasions there were few of whom it might not be said, as of Tam O'Shanter, that if they "were na fou," they "just had plenty," — enough to put them in the best possible trim for telling their "queerest stories."

‡ The first death in town (March 15, 1753) was that of William Stuart, aged 53, who was buried in the Old Cemetery.

most sacred of their number, with the holy volume before him, and with an iron sternness of manner, from time to time administered the words of divine consolation and hope. This was the offspring of Scotland, and betokened at once the sublime and severe character of the highlands. But ever and anon another comforter came in, of Irish parentage; the long countenance became short, the broad Irish humor began to rise, and before the dawn, jokes and laughter had broken in upon the slumbers of the dead. Again at the funeral the same mixed custom prevailed. After the prayer had been offered, and the last look taken, and the coffin closed, spirit was handed round, first to the minister and mourners, then to the bearers, and finally to the whole congregation. All followed to the grave. The comforting draught was again administered at their return, and a sumptuous supper prepared. So did they bury their dead in the days of our fathers.

And yet they were a devout, religious people. With their Presbyterian predilections confirmed by the inhuman massacres, extortions, and wars through which they had passed, their first object in settling here was that they might be free in their religious faith. And nowhere upon the shores of New England, every part of which was sought for a religious end, have prayers been offered more fervent and sincere, or the Scriptures read with more constancy and reverence, than in the first rude dwellings of our fathers. The fact that with such religious teachers they should still have preserved a religious character shows how deeply those principles had been implanted in their minds. What had clung to them in Ireland, the disposition to humor, rioting, and laughter, was only upon the surface, playing there and varying the outlines of the countenance, while the strong, granite features of Scotland were fixed deep in the soul. The unbending purpose, the lofty principle, the almost haughty adherence to what they believed true, and high, and sacred, resting on a religious basis, was the real substance of their character. They had foibles, they had weaknesses and errors. But well may it be for us if the refinements of a more advanced society and a more liberal culture should serve to give grace, beauty, and

light to the same strong powers of thought, the same courage, though in a different sphere, the same generous elevation of soul, the same vivacity, and, above all, the same deep, thoughtful, religious principle that belonged to them.

I have now before me a list* of four hundred and eighty emigrants, who, scattered through sixteen different States, and, if not greatly distinguished, yet holding a respectable place, retain these same strong features. Here, though at times we have felt as if strangers who came among us could only spy out the nakedness of the land after the fruitful gatherings of the harvest, there is still, enriched as the town has been by new accessions, enough to perpetuate the character which we have received from our fathers. Their faults were usually virtues carried too far. The strong mind sometimes became dogmatical, impatient, overbearing; their courage became rashness, their generosity extravagance, their wit levity; their piety was sometimes proud, formal, severe; and all these incongruous excesses were not seldom mingled in the same mind. Such were our fathers, the substantial elements of their characters well deserving attention, especially in these days of timid virtue; their faults, partly belonging to the times, but more the effect of strong feelings without the advantages of early discipline. At the same time, they had in them the rudiments of a real refinement — warm, kind, and gentle feelings, — and specimens of politeness were found among them worthy of the patriarchal age.

A century has gone by since the solitude of our forests was first broken by the sound of their axe; and within that century what events have successively risen upon the world! The old French war; our own Revolution, one of the few great events in the history of man; Washington and his associates, — they have come and gone, and the noise of their actions is like the distant murmurings of the sea, heard inland when the storm is over, and the waves are sinking to their repose. Then there was the French Revolution, filling the world at once with hope and terror, the rise and fall of

* Prepared with much care by Capt. Isaac Edes.

that wonderful man, who, beginning and ending his life in a narrow island, dethroned monarchs, shook empires, ploughed through kingdoms in his bloody course. During all this while, our mountain retreat remained, answering only with a faint echo to the tumults that were agitating all the great interests of the world. The common incidents of time passed over it. Our fathers sowed, and, with the patience of hope, waited the result of their labors; they laughed and mourned, performed or neglected the great work that was before them, and went off one by one to their reward. All of the first, and almost all of the second, generation are now gone. The few that linger with us will soon be gathered to their fathers, and no link will be left connecting us with the first settlers of our town. They are going, they are gone; a strongly-marked race, — bold as the craggy summits of our mountains, generous as our richest fields, impetuous as the torrents that came tumbling down our hills, kind and gentle as the same streams winding through the valleys, and watering the green meadows.

They, and all that they loved, hoped, or feared, their intelligence and strength, their warm sympathies and strong hearts, their loud jests and solemn prayers, are gone from their old homes. Their bones repose on yonder bleak hill-side, near the spot where they were wont to assemble, as a single family, to worship the God of their fathers. Blessings rest upon the spot. The old meeting-house, as if it could not longer, in its loneliness, look down day and night upon the graves of those who had once filled its walls with prayer and song, has gone like them, and the ploughshare has removed every mark of the place where it stood. The graveyard alone remains. It is overgrown with wild bushes, briers, and thistles. There let them in summer spread their shade over the ashes of the dead, and in winter let the winds whistle and howl through them, a fitting emblem of the desolation which must sooner or later strip off every earthly hope. May the blessings of heaven rest still on that spot. Fresher tears may be shed, and more sumptuous ornaments prepared for the new ground, but many are the hearts, of children and brothers and parents,

which still cling to the old graveyard, bleak, and wild, and lonely as it is. And some there are who, when the paleness of death is creeping under their thin gray locks, shall leave the parting charge of the patriarch: "Bury me with my fathers on the old hill-side. There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebecca his wife; there I buried Leah, and there let my bones be laid."

A hundred years have gone by. What unlooked-for events in the great wheel of human life shall rise before another century has closed, it were vain for us to inquire. But when a remote generation shall come next to celebrate this day, not one of us, not one of our children, except as a gray and wrinkled relic from the past, shall be found among the living. The Monadnock then, as now, will catch the first glimmerings of morning, and the last rays of evening will linger upon his bald and rugged brow; the Contoocook will journey onward to the sea; but of all that our hands have wrought, and our hearts have loved, not a vestige will remain as we now behold it. What future good or ill, what storms of civil violence or public war, may pass over the land, we know not. But so may we live that the inheritance which we have received, of freedom, truth, intelligence, virtue, and faith, may be handed down unspotted to those who shall succeed; and the blessing of Almighty God will go with it, and go also with us.

NOTE. — My object throughout has been to state facts, and not to give opinions. In noticing at the beginning of the discourse, for instance, the long and bitter contests between the native Irish and the Scotch who had settled on their lands, I wished to say nothing of the blame attached to either party. My sole object was to state the facts as viewed at the time by the Scotch emigrants, in order to show the influence upon the character of their descendants. The Irish may have been guilty of cruelty and madness, but it was the cruelty and madness into which a sensitive, generous, enthusiastic people were goaded by oppression.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my obligations to several members of the Committee of Arrangements at Peterborough, without whose assistance in the collection of facts, this Address, imperfect as it is, could not have been prepared.

NOTES.

No. I.

The union of opposite qualities, which has sometimes prevented our character from being rightly estimated by strangers, is, with great justice, expressed in the following account of Dr. Jesse Smith, which I have been permitted to extract from a manuscript sermon preached after his death (Sept. 22, 1833), by my friend, Rev. Ephraim Peabody, who had been his pastor.

"There were united in him qualities which, in so eminent a degree, are rarely seen combined. His mind was thoroughly possessed by that foundation of every virtue — a sense of his own personal responsibility — which governed his life with the omnipotence of habit. Hence that firmness and independence of purpose which kept its calm and even way, equally incapable of being seduced by the solicitations, or overawed by the fear, of man. His iron firmness of resolve seemed almost to partake of obstinacy, till a more intimate acquaintanee showed that it was the result of a character where the mental and moral powers were peculiarly active, but peculiarly well-proportioned, — where habits of independent, clear thought left no wavering of mind, and the moral energy fully sustained the intellectual decision. And interfused through these more rugged features was a true tenderness of nature, which softened down everything like austerity, and preserved for manhood the simple feelings of the child. It struck men almost strangely, who had seen him only in the struggle of life, to witness how quickly and deeply he was touched by everything that interested others, until it was remembered how much better the firm character preserves the original susceptibilities of the heart, than the feeble. . . . But that which shed beauty over his character, and commanded the love and respect of his friends so deeply, was the light and strength it received from religious faith."

In conversation, my friend speaks also of his fearless intrepidity of spirit, which, united with the Peterborough humor, that spared no one, and with a frame of mind so vigorous, gave to those who knew him little the idea of coarseness and levity, hiding at once the nice susceptibilities, deep feelings, and lofty principle which were really, with him, the controlling powers.

No. II.

Province of New Hampshire.

To his Excellency, Benning Wentworth, Esq., Commander-in-chief and over his Majesty's Province of New Hampshire; the honorable his Majesty's Council of said Province.

The Humble Petition of us, the subscribers, being Inhabitants of a tract of Land (lying in said Province on the West side of Merrimac River, of the contents of about six miles square, commonly called and known by the name of Peterborough) in behalf of ourselves and others, the inhabitants of said tract of land, most humbly shews — That about the year of our lord 1739, a number of Persons in consequence of a Grant of a tract of land, had and obtained from the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, by Samuel Haywood and others his associates, granting to them the said tract of land on certain conditions of settlement. And in pursuance whereof a number of People immediately went on to said tract of land and began a settlement, (tho then vary fur from any other inhabitants) which we have continued increasing ever

since the year 1739, except some times when we left said Township for fear of being destroyed by the Enemy, who several times drove us from our settlement soon after we began and almost ruined many of us. Yet what little we had in the World lay there, we having no whither else to go returned to our settlement as soon as prudense wood addmitt where we have continued since and have cultivated a rough part of the Wilderness to a fruitful field — the Inhabitants of said tract of land are increased to the number of forty-five or fifty familys, and our situation with respect to terms we at first settled on are such that we cannot hold any Provincial meetings at all, to pass any vote or votes that will be sufficient to oblige any person to do any part towards supporting the Gospel building a Meeting-house and Bridges, Clereing and repairing Roads and all which would not only be beneficial to us settlers to have it in our power to do but a great benefit to people travelling to Connecticut river and there towns settling beyond us —

Therefore we humbly request of your Excellency and Hon' to take the premises under consideration and Incorporate us, that we may be invested with town privileges and immunities as other towns are in this province and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray, &c. Oct. 31, 1759.

THOMAS MORISON,
JONATHAN MORISON,
THOMAS CUNINGHAM.

Your petitioners beg leave to add, as a matter of considerable importance that the only road from Portsmouth thro this Province to number four is through said township of Peterborough, and which makes it more necessary to repair said Road within said Township, and to make many bridges which they cannot do unless incorporated and enabled to raise taxes, &c.

No. III.

MORTALITY. — The average annual mortality, according to an estimate made from tables furnished by Dr. Follansbee, was, from 1801 to 1806, one in ninety-three; from 1806 to 1816, one in eighty-one; from 1816 to 1826, one in seventy-eight; from 1828 to 1838, one in sixty-eight; which shows a very considerable increase, notwithstanding all the comforts which have been brought in.

EPIDEMICS. — In 1777, the dysentery prevailed severely; in 1800, it prevailed in the north part of the town, particularly among children. Number of deaths, twenty-three. In 1826, it prevailed under a more malignant form among adults as well as children. Number of deaths, fifty-eight.

CASUALTIES. — There have been, since 1751, fifty-eight cases of death by accident; but no person or building has ever been destroyed by lightning.

PAUPERISM. — The first pauper in town was Jean Culberson, 1764; the largest number (seventeen) in 1821. In 1826, the expense was four hundred and ninety-nine dollars and fifty-four cents, and the average annual expense, from 1815 to 1836, was about four hundred dollars. Since then the poor have been on a farm purchased by the town, and maintained without cost.

POPULATION in 1775, five hundred and forty-six; in 1790, eight hundred and sixty; in 1800, one thousand three hundred and thirty-three; in 1810, one thousand five hundred and thirty-seven; in 1820, one thousand five hundred; in 1830, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four; in 1839, two thousand three hundred.

No. IV.

WATER PRIVILEGES. — The following is condensed from Mr. Steele's report. I regret that an abstract of his full and exact account of the subject is all that our limits will admit.

On the spot where the Peterborough Factory now stands, a saw and grist-mill was erected about 1761. The grist-mill ceased operation in 1817. The mills were burnt in 1772, and rebuilt.

The South Factory Mills were built in 1758, burnt 1768, rebuilt 1770. Bowers' Mills, — saw-mill built 1778, grist-mill added 1781. The Moore Saw-Mill built 1780, burnt 1790. Hunt's Mills, — saw-mill 1799, grist-mill 1803. Both have ceased. The present saw and grist-mill began 1826. The Spring Saw-Mill built 1810; James Howe's Saw-Mill, 1814; City Grist-Mill, 1820; Union Saw-Mill, 1823; Grist-Mill, 1828; Holmes' Mills, 1827; Upton's Saw-Mill, 1837.

COTTON FACTORIES. — The Peterborough Factory, or the Old Factory, or the Bell Factory, incorporated December, 1808, started 1810; the brick part with looms added 1817. The first cloth woven 1818, under direction of John H. Steele. It now contains one thousand two hundred and eighty spindles, and forty-two looms, making three-fourth drillings and shirtings of No. 16 yarn, four hundred thousand yards per annum.

The South or Second Factory erected 1809, machinery started 1810; now employed in making satinet warps and yarn for the market.

The North Factory, started 1814, contains now eight hundred and forty-eight spindles and twenty looms, making drillings and shirtings of yarn No. 16, four hundred thousand yards per year.

The Phœnix Factory began, in 1813 or 1814, to make yarn; looms added in 1822; the southern half burned in 1828; rebuilt 1829; the northern half rebuilt 1831. It contains now three thousand eight hundred and eighty spindles, and seventy-eight looms, and makes shirtings and sheetings, part No. 16, part No. 30, five hundred and seventy-five thousand yards per year.

The Union Factory, erected 1823, cost one hundred thousand dollars, contains two thousand five hundred and sixty spindles, and seventy-four looms, and makes seven-eighth and four-fourth shirtings, of No. 40, three hundred and fifty thousand yards per year.

The first clothier's shop was built in 1780; the second, 1794; the third, 1801; the fourth (now Henry F. Coggswell's), 1811; the fifth, now run by Thomas Wilson, 1826.

The other factories which have been or now are in town, carried by water, are the Eagle Factory, Moore & Bement's Machine-Shop, the Batting-Shop, seven trip-hammer shops, an oil-mill, an iron furnace and stone shop, a shoe-peg factory, two paper-mills, two bark-mills, six shops for turning cabinet and wheelwright work.

The whole manufacturing power is estimated at three hundred thousand dollars.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

AT

PETERBOROUGH, N. H.

At a legal town-meeting of the inhabitants of Peterborough, holden at the town-house in said town, Oct. 5, 1839, the following votes were passed and proceedings had, *viz.:*—

Balloted for and chose John H. Steele, Moderator, who was sworn to the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, by William M. White, First Selectman of Peterborough.

On motion, *Voted* unanimously to celebrate, on Thursday, the 24th instant, the *First Centennial Anniversary* of the settlement of the town.

Voted, To choose a Committee of Arrangements, whose duty it shall be to invite such guests as they may see fit, and do and provide all things necessary for the celebration.

Chose Jonathan Smith, David Smiley, John Scott, John Steele, Nathaniel Moore, Hugh Miller, William Wilson, Stephen P. Steele, John H. Steele, Timothy K. Ames, John Todd, Jr., Albert Smith, A. C. Blodgett, George W. Senter, William Follansbee, William Scott, Robert White, Henry F. Coggswell, Alexander Robbe, William M. White, Isaac Edes, William Field, Frederick Livingston, James Scott, Jonathan Faxon, Reuben Washburn, William E. Treadwell, John Smith.

Voted, To publish in a pamphlet form the Address, together with such other facts and proceedings as the Committee of Arrangements may see fit, and that a copy of the same be distributed to each family in town.

Voted, To appropriate two hundred dollars out of any money in the treasury, for the purpose of defraying any expenses incident to the celebration; and that the Selectmen's order on the Treasurer shall be his voucher for the amount so drawn, not exceeding the above-named sum.

A true copy from the records.

Attest, A. C. BLODGETT, *Town Clerk.*

Saturday, Oct. 5, 1839. Meeting of the Committee of Arrangements. Chose John H. Steele, Chairman, and Albert Smith, Secretary.

Voted, That all the sons of Peterborough who have distinguished themselves abroad be invited to attend the celebration.

Committee to Invite Guests: John H. Steele, Albert Smith, Stephen P. Steele.

Voted, That John Steele, William Scott, A. C. Blodgett, Isaac Edes, John Smith, be added to the former committee, to prepare sentiments for the celebration.

Voted, That the Secretary be authorized to insert a notice of the celebration in five neighboring newspapers, *viz.:* the two Keene papers, the two Nashua papers, and the *Farmer's Cabinet* at Amherst.

The following notice was accordingly sent to the above papers: —

"The Centennial Celebration of Peterborough will take place on Thursday, the 24th instant. An address will be delivered by the Rev. John H. Morison, of New Bedford, Mass. The exercises will commence at 11 o'clock, A.M. All the absent natives and those who have resided in Peterborough are respectfully invited to attend on this occasion. Peterborough, Oct. 13, 1839."

Voted, That a cold collation be prepared for dinner.

Chose Gen. John Steele, Marshal, with authority to appoint such assistants as he may think proper.

Voted, That a Committee of Three be appointed to confer with the Presbyterian Society, in relation to the obtaining of their unfinished church for the dinner.

John Todd, Jr., William Field, Isaac Edes, *Committee.*

Voted, That a Committee be chosen to prepare seats and make the necessary preparations for the dinner.

James Scott, William Scott, William M. White, *Committee.*

Voted, That a Committee be chosen to contract for and procure the dinner.

Timothy K. Ames, Samuel Swan, William Scott, *Committee.*

Voted, That A. C. Blodgett and James Scott be a committee to see to the ornamenting of the meeting-house, and that they invite the ladies to assist, and that they be controlled by their taste.

Voted, That a Committee of Three be chosen to invite the independent companies, and all the singers and the instrumental music of the town to take a part in the celebration.

Albert Smith, William Scott, William Follansbee, *Committee.*

Voted, that a President of the Day be chosen.

Chose Jonathan Smith, *President;* David Smiley, John Scott, *Vice-Presidents;* Albert Smith, *Toast-Master.*

Voted, That this meeting be adjourned to Monday, Oct. 14th, at 4 o'clock, P.M.

ALBERT SMITH, *Secretary.*

Monday, Oct. 14, 1839. Met agreeably to adjournment.

Voted, That the procession form at the town-house on the day of the celebration.

Voted, That the Committee of Invitation be requested to invite all the regular clergymen of the neighboring towns, together with Rev. A. A. Livermore and Rev. Z. S. Barstow, of Keene, and Rev. Mr. Whitman, of Wilton.

Voted, That a Committee of Three be chosen to designate the clergymen who shall take part in the religious services of the day.

Rev. Dr. Abbott, Rev. John H. Morison, Rev. J. M. Wilmarth, *Committee.*

Adjourned to Monday, Oct. 21st.

ALBERT SMITH, *Secretary.*

Monday, Oct. 21, 1839. Met agreeably to adjournment.

Voted, That a Committee be chosen to procure extra seats for the meeting-house on the day of the celebration.

Chose Frederick Livingston, Jonas Livingston, Riley Goodridge.

Order of the Procession: the Military; Orator; President and two Vice-Presidents; Clergy; Invited Guests; Committee of Arrangements; the elderly Citizens of the Town; Citizens.

Voted, That the above be the order of the procession.

Voted, That all the lower pews of the Unitarian Church be appropriated to the ladies, except those on the broad aisle.

Meeting adjourned.

ALBERT SMITH, *Secretary.*

Thursday, 11 *o'clock, Oct.* 24, 1839.

Sung an *Anthem.*

Invocation, by Rev. Solomon Laws.

Reading the Scriptures, by Rev. J. M. Wilmarth.

Hymn, composed for the occasion by Henry Dunbar, a blind boy.

To thee, O God, we joyful raise
Our songs of gratitude and praise;
Thy mercies like thy dews descend;
O'er all thy care and love extend.

We thank thee, Lord, that thou didst bless
Our fathers in a wilderness;
That where the forest darkly frowned
The smiling cottage now is found.

We thank thee that to us is given
Freedom, the richest boon of heaven;
And may our country ever be
The land of true equality.

The poor man, in his humble cot,
Is not, O Lord, by thee forgot;
And they whose mansions higher rise
Receive their blessings from the skies.

Then, Father, grant that we may stand
Protected ever by thy hand;
And while thy power our life sustains,
We'll sing thy praise in joyful strains.

Prayer, by Rev. William Ritchie.

Anthem.

Address, by Rev. John H. Morison.

Ode, written for the occasion by Nathaniel H. Morison.

TUNE — "*New England Fathers.*"

Through devious ways and paths unknown,
Through forests dark and drear,
Our fathers sought these mountain streams,
To plant their offspring here.

They came not forth from princely halls,
To wasting pleasures sold;
They came not as the Spaniard came,
To seek for mines of gold.

But, strong in purpose, high in soul,
In virtue armed secure,
They came from homes affection blessed;
They sought for homes as pure.

Through years of toil, through years of want,
They bravely struggled on,
And lo! the forest melts away;
The prowling wolf is gone.

Their flocks increase, and fields of corn
In summer breezes wave;
And plenty crowns the smiling board,
When winter tempests rave.

And soon, while busy life flows on,
And hardship slowly flies,
They see on fair Contoocook's banks,
Their pleasant hamlets rise.

Their names are left for us to bear;
Their spirits — they are fled;
And yon lone hill has gathered in
The harvest of their dead.

Their homes, their graves, may be forgot;
And yet they will be blessed,
So long as we, their sons, shall own
The spirit they possessed.

Anthem.

Benediction.

Blessing at the dinner table by Rev. Elijah Dunbar; thanks returned by Rev. Peter Holt.

AFTERNOON.

Toast 1st — The memory of the early settlers of Peterborough; let us not forget the perils and hardships which they endured, while we are enjoying, in peace and plenty, the fruits of their labors.

Deacon Jonathan Smith, President of the Day, rose and said:—

FELLOW-CITIZENS,—The sentiment just read relates to the sufferings and hardships of our fathers in their first settlement in this place. The orator of the day has related many incidents of the perils they endured, yet the half has not been told. I well recollect many of the meetings of the first settlers, at my father's house and elsewhere, when they used to relate the privations, hardships, and dangers of their first settlement; and it seemed as though they were enough to break down their spirits, and cast a gloom over every countenance. Was it so? No. Notwithstanding all they suffered and all they feared, there was a joyful countenance, —there was more mirth, pleasantry, wit, and humor, at that time, than at the present. There was another good thing attending those meetings: there was more friendship towards one another; more acts of kindness in relieving each other in their distress. The singing of the old Scotch songs generally closed these meetings.

In truth, their lives were soldiers' lives, though they were not so well fed or clothed. These scenes and trials admirably fitted them for brave and hardy soldiers, to fight our battles and gain our independence. If the times and condition of the country raised up men eminently qualified to lead our armies, no less did they raise up soldiers, making them patient of suffering, persevering and confident of success. Had it not been for this, we have no reason to believe that we should have gained our independence. Now shall their sons, well clothed and fed and at their ease, lose what their fathers so hardly earned? I hope not; but that the same Divine Hand that so abundantly cherished and sustained their fathers in attaining will also qualify them to keep and improve the blessings of liberty they now enjoy; and that another century from this will find a people *here* improved in all knowledge, virtue, and every moral principle, so that our independence will be preserved to the latest ages.

MUSIC — "*Oft in the Stilly Night.*" Sung by the Choir.

2d — The memory of the patriotic eighty-three of this town, who signed a virtual Declaration of Independence, June 17, 1776.

[A copy of the document alluded to was read by Thomas Steele, Esq., one of the signers, now in his eighty-sixth year, who gave a short account of every signer, where they lived, and where they died. No more than three of the eighty-three remained, namely, Thomas Steele, Esq., Capt. William Robbe and Benjamin Mitchell, all of them present.]

MUSIC — "*Ode on Science.*" Sung by the Choir.

3d — The Clergy; may their united labors, as heretofore, prove a strong citadel of our free institutions and sacred rights.

Rev. William Ritchie rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — It is probably expected that I, the eldest of the clerical sons of Peterborough, should respond to this compliment to the clergy. In the faithful discharge of the duties of their office, the clergy are necessarily important aids to civil government. Whilst they advance the spiritual interests of men, and prepare them for a higher and more perfect state of being, they make them better in all the relations, social and civil, they sustain on earth. Their ministrations strike at the root of those disorganizing principles and vices which endanger the rights, disturb the peace, destroy the liberty and happiness of society. The good done by many other classes of the community is palpable; but frequently the happiest influences of our ministry can never be known until the secrets of all hearts are revealed. Then it will be seen how often, by the faithful ministrations of the clergy, slumbering conscience has been aroused, incipient crime checked, languishing virtue revived, and the intellectual and moral nature awakened into vigorous exercise, and man no longer permitted to live, a libel on his form and on his Maker.

In the eloquent and interesting Address of this morning, its author, as by enchantment, caused our ancestors, in all their privations and sufferings, excellences and defects, to pass before us. The first and second clergymen of this town, we were told, and some of us recollect, were neither an honor to their profession nor a blessing to the community. Such examples are, however, rare; and their successors still live and fully redeem this order of men from the reproach cast upon it by their predecessors in this place. Not only the faithful ministrations of the clergy, but their example, is well calculated to guard our free institutions and sacred rights. We are sometimes, indeed, told the clergy have no concern with politics, and should never leave their proper sphere for one so uncongenial to their sacred office. Party politics, the arts of office-seekers, are sufficiently disgraceful not only to exclude the clergy, but all honest men, from them. The man, however, who devotes himself to the ministry does not by that act surrender his social and civil rights. He has, and should feel, all the interest in the political prosperity of his country which every good man does; and having no selfish purpose to serve, no office to look for, one would suppose this, added to intellectual acquirements, would render his opinion at least as important and valuable as that of other members of the community. So long as the minister of religion discharges faithfully and independently his duty, expresses fearlessly and courteously all his opinions, without a wish to dictate or control the opinions of others any farther than light and conviction should control them, his influence must be highly beneficial to the religious, social, and civil institutions of his country.

I have no wish that former days should return, when respect was paid solely to the office, however unworthy the occupant. Intelligence and character in the clergy should alone command respect and confidence. The clergy have also manifested a deep interest in the cause of education; and been efficient in elevating the common schools. This is the very corner-stone on which all our valuable free institutions rest. Valuable as are our high schools and academies, the town schools are the

fountains from which knowledge flows to the people. An overwhelming majority of the community and of the electors receive all their education at the town schools. No greater service can be done for the community than to elevate the standard of education in the public schools. In this important work the clergy have taken an active and leading part. May every class of the community coöperate, until our common schools are what the wants of the community demand, affording to every portion of the republic the means of a good education. It is always pleasant to look back to the place where we first acquired a taste for learning. Indeed, everything which reminds us of the place of our birth, and of those dear parents and friends whose affection cared for us, when we could not care for ourselves, is deeply interesting. Yes, I have often hailed as a friend the dark Monadnock, at a great distance, raising his head above the hills and looking far off on the land and on the sea; and around its barren top have clustered the most delightful associations and reminiscences of by-gone days, of parents and ancestors whose remains now sleep on the side of yonder hill, on which they uniformly worshipped, and to which they early directed my feet.

I have already occupied more time than I intended. The rapid advancement of my native town in mechanic arts, the increase of wealth, the improvement in public buildings and private dwellings, has given a new aspect to this place. May the cause of education equally advance, giving a permanent glory to the prosperity of a place we all delight to honor. I conclude with this sentiment: Intellectual and moral culture; the only conservative principles of the republic; may they ever have an increasing interest in our hearts.

MUSIC — "*Old Hundred.*" Sung by the Choir.

4th — Hon. Samuel Smith, whose activity, energy, and enterprise put the first wheels in motion that have rolled this village on to its present flourishing condition.

Dr. Albert Smith rose and said: —

It is with great reluctance and embarrassment that I feel myself obliged to respond to the sentiment just read. I regret to consume any time in which you might be entertained by others, who are now ready to speak. You have seen fit, kindly, to notice my father on this occasion, — one of the greatest and most important in the history of our town. But the fast-creeping infirmities of age have rendered him unable to express, in a manner agreeable to his feelings, the sincere gratification which this kind and flattering notice has given him. You will permit me to speak for him who, you all know, has heretofore so well and ably spoken for himself.

What he has been and all that he has done belong to this town alone; here he was born and here he has always lived. The sentiment alludes to his efforts as the founder of this village. He did here only what he would have done elsewhere, — with such energy of character, such ardor and enthusiasm in his projects; for he had all the Morison failing of being a great projector, and was withal somewhat visionary. Such men often do great good. It is well that, now and then, an individual can disregard all the minor considerations of prudence and economy, and go on fearlessly in his course. Thus great plans are carried out, villages arise,

business is increased, and what is ordinarily the work of years is accomplished at once.

It was thus with my father. Almost any man, with his limited means when he came to this village, instead of building all kinds of mills, dams, walls, stores, houses, etc., would, in Scripture language, have counted the cost; and then the progress of this village would have been slow, and what was accomplished at one effort would have been the work of years.

It is now forty-seven years since he first commenced in this part of the village. There was then but one house standing, and one family only, near the spot where we are now assembled. All else was in the rude state of nature, untouched and unsubdued. From yonder hill, what a contrast would a view of this place now present! Then all was dreary and desolate. A thick, tangled forest, abounding with lofty pines and hemlocks in all the grandeur of mature age, was flourishing, where now resound the efforts of active and constant industry. There was nothing in the prospect to give pleasure; for should you look with attention, a high and extensive sand-bank, that had withstood the elements for ages, would meet your view; then you would observe abrupt hills, and the two rivers almost choked with the inroads of the forest. Only now and then might be seen a human being along its narrow and crooked road. The out-settlers of the town could not use too opprobrious terms to express their dislike of the place. But now how changed! from the same spot there would meet your view, or I am deceived, one of the most beautiful villages of our country. You would see this beautiful river at your feet winding its course through highly-cultivated fields; at a little distance the green, but, at this time, deeply variegated, woods; then the *hills*, the grand hills, some of them rising abruptly, others in a gradual slope from its banks. When your eye rests on the village, you would see the happy homes of hundreds, and of all these only two (my parents) remain who were here in the infancy of the place. Again, you would see churches, houses, factories, stores, mechanic shops, and all the busy hum of men, — the stir and bustle of business from morn to eve. You would see the evidence of enterprise on every hand, the well-marked and not-to-be-mistaken signs of a prosperous and flourishing community. Well might it excite astonishment that one individual, alone and unaided, and with limited means, should have pitched upon this spot, as forbidding as it then was; should have reared up such a building of Babel dimensions as justly to be considered the wonder of the day; should have filled the same with all kinds of mills and machinery then in use and needed by the community, and persevere till he had made a village of his own. But the greater the difficulties, the more ardent and persevering was he in overcoming them. His life has been a lesson of perseverance, whatever other lesson it may have exhibited to mankind. The pecuniary embarrassments which he sustained for years would have prostrated almost any other mind; but he preserved an equanimity through them that few men possess; and nothing but the ruthless hand of age and infirmity could depress or break him down. I trust I shall be pardoned for speaking thus. No one *now* can feel any other than sentiments of respect towards him, unless it be of commiseration. For here is a noble mind in ruins. He has now passed the active scenes of life, he has long since ceased to be an object of jealousy or envy to any living being, and soon, in all human probability, must his earthly career be closed. What he has done in life, it is not for me to say. His labors are ended, and whether they be for weal or woe, those who come after him and us will judge.

I offer the following sentiment in behalf and at the request of my

father: May the present enterprising spirit and increased prosperity of Peterborough — which is so highly honorable and praiseworthy — ever continue.

MUSIC — "*Who is this.*" Sung by the Choir.

5th — Gen. James Miller; a brave man, never to be forgotten by his country or native town.

Gen. Miller rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT and Fellow-Citizens of my Native Town, — I return to you my sincere thanks for your flattering notice of me on this memorable occasion, — an occasion which once more gives me the pleasure of meeting and taking by the hand so many of my old and valuable friends and acquaintances, and of again witnessing the marked improvements of my native place. That her march may still be onward in every useful improvement is the sincere wish of my heart.

Mr. President, I offer as a sentiment: May we encourage literature, revere religion, and love one another.

MUSIC — "*Gen. Miller's March.*" By the Band.

6th — First Light Infantry and Peterborough Guards; a citizen-soldiery the best in the world.

Capt. Samuel C. Olliver rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — My situation is such as to render it inconvenient for me to come forward to speak. But after hearing the sentiment just offered I feel obliged to respond. Although an adopted son of Peterborough, I am proud on all occasions to acknowledge myself one of her sons, — even one of her citizen-soldiery. Yes, Light Infantry and Peterborough Guards, we have in the sentiment just read the honorable title of a citizen-soldiery given us. We are so indeed, — members of that institution which gained for us the blessings of liberty and freedom which we now enjoy, and descendants of those noble patriots who won them, with whose praise we are all familiar. We cannot, we will not, prove ourselves unworthy of the sires who, reared in those valleys, went forth at the first call of their country, met the British lion on the plains of Bennington and Saratoga, and bravely took him. History responds to their heroic deeds; and the echoes of those hills answer nobly to the tune of "Yankee Doodle," and fill the air with victory. We are all familiar, too, with the condition of the American people. Every child knows and adopts the popular sentiment, that ours is the happiest nation on the globe, — and is it not so? We are able to enjoy ourselves independently of others. Although other nations may trouble and even threaten us with destruction, yet we know the strong arm of the militia will defend our families and homes.

It is our own prerogative, and the distinction of the true Yankee, to be prepared to defend, but not to invade. Mark the improvement. One hundred years ago, those limpid waters that flow along our river witnessed in their course only the yell of the savage and the howl of wild beasts. Now a civilized and industrious people rise up in clouds before them, — a people, too, whose homes and firesides have become academies of use-

ful learning. One hundred years ago, the inhabitants of this fertile soil knew naught but the enslaving maxims that enchain the mind. Now every man is a student. Then none sought to improve by the past, but were content with the pleasures of the moment; in a word, they were savages. Now all look forward to a nobler and higher state of improvement. Having been sufficiently educated to become instructors of themselves, they reach forward with slow but sure march to jewels that are laid up in store for them. Moreover, we here breathe the pure air of freedom, where all are born equal, where there are no kings, no princes, no nobility, no titles; in a country that is destined to grow on, to fill the Valley of the Mississippi, to spread itself along the Red River, the Arkansas, the Missouri, climb the Rocky Mountains, descend upon the Columbia, and overspread the shores of the Pacific Ocean with a hundred millions of human beings as free and independent as ourselves. We have something to do in this matter. Mr. President, upon us rests the responsibility for the safe keeping of those institutions, and transmitting them untarnished to millions yet unborn.

Fellow-citizens, citizen-soldiers, when our country, with all her noble institutions, shall cry, Defend, are we ready? Aye, ready.

Mr. President, permit me to offer the following sentiment: The fair; it is but fair that the fair partake of our fare on the present occasion.

MUSIC — "*Gen. Washington's March.*" By the Band.

7th — Our Absent Sons; we gladden at your prosperity, we mourn if you attempt to do evil; though we grow old we do not forget you.

EXETER, Oct. 22, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I regret that it is not in my power to accept your invitation to attend your Centennial Celebration on Thursday. Nothing, I assure you, could give me more pleasure. I am sure none of the sons of old Peterborough would enter more into the joyous feelings of the day. I have known her nearly as long as any of her children still alive, and yield to none in attachment. I have experienced nothing but kindness and confidence from her ever since I was capable of knowing good from evil; and I pray heaven to reward her for all her goodness to me. Allow me to offer this sentiment: Peterborough; may she be as distinguished in the next century for moral worth, as she has been for intellectual superiority and business enterprise in this.

I am, gentlemen, with much regard, your obedient servant,

JEREMIAH SMITH.

NEW YORK, Oct. 17, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I assure you, with the most perfect truth and sincerity, that I received the invitation with heart-felt satisfaction, considering the place whence this gratifying testimony proceeds. It being the place of my early and late associations, it demands the expression of my profound and grateful acknowledgments. It occasions me painful regret not to be able to accept the invitation, and I cannot conclude without tendering to

you, and those whom you represent, my respectful thanks for the honor done me on this occasion. Permit me, gentlemen, to propose the following sentiment: Peterborough; what was she a century ago, what was she half a century ago, and what is she now? May her industry, enterprise, improvements, prosperity, and happiness continue to advance onward for centuries yet to come.

Your obedient servant,

DANIEL ABBOT.

BOSTON, Oct. 17, 1839.

Dear Sirs, — Accept my hearty thanks for your invitation to the Centennial Celebration at Peterborough. I should most certainly attend, were I not denied that pleasure by ill-health. But, gentlemen, I shall not be unmindful of so interesting an event; for I intend to celebrate the day at my own residence in Boston. I shall be *with you* then, though not actually in my native town.

Your kind letter brought to my mind many pleasing reminiscences of days gone by — of the scenes, the times, the associates, and friends of my youth. The Wilsons, Steeles, Mitchells, and Smiths; the Morisons, Stuarts, and Moores; the Millers, Whites, and many other worthy citizens, whose names are familiar to you, appeared before me. They had a rugged path to walk: but they were industrious and persevering. They were open-hearted, public-spirited, and independent men; and it is gratifying for me, a native, though non-resident of Peterborough, to know that the present inhabitants are the true representatives of such predecessors.

On the 24th inst., and while you are publicly rejoicing, I shall fill my glass with wine in honor of the day, in remembrance of the first settlers and my old comrades and friends, and to the health of their descendants and the present inhabitants of the town, giving this sentiment: The pioneers of Peterborough; let us cherish their memories, and teach our children to emulate the labors and virtues of the first settlers of the town.

Renewing to you, gentlemen of the committee, and through you to the citizens, my regret that "though with you, I shall not be *there*" on the occasion in question, I remain an ardent friend of my native town, and

Most respectfully your obedient servant,

SAMUEL GREGG.

BELFAST, Oct. 15, 1839.

Gentlemen, — A short absence prevented the receipt of your letter a day or two. But the first occasion is embraced to say that the pleasure of attending your Centennial Celebration would overcome all objections as to distance, if it were not that the Court of Common Pleas sits in this county on the first Thursday of next month, and that will prevent attendance.

With leave, the following sentiment is offered: The town of Peterborough; may her prosperity be as rapid and lasting as her streams.

Yours, with sentiments of high respect,

JOHN WILSON.

CINCINNATI, Oct. 18, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I am much obliged by your kind invitation to be present at the Centennial Celebration at Peterborough. It would give me a peculiar pleasure to be there on an occasion so interesting, and especially as I should find myself among many old friends; but it will be wholly impracticable. If there were time — I received the letter yesterday, — I could not come. Our lecture-term is at hand and I must be on the ground.

Be pleased to present my affectionate regards to the Rev. Mr. Morison, if he be the same gentleman who was once my patient; and my sincere respects to my old friends, the recollection of whose kindness, years and years agone, I fondly cherish.

Very respectfully, your friend,

R. D. MUSSEY.

BOSTON, Oct. 16, 1839.

Gentlemen, — Your kind letter of the 7th instant, inviting me to join the citizens of Peterborough in the celebration of the approaching Centennial Anniversary of the town, on Thursday, the 24th inst., was received in due course of mail. I feel highly gratified with being remembered on this occasion by the inhabitants of my *native* town; the town where I spent the pleasant hours of my early childhood; where the remains of my beloved parents, now long since mingled with the dust, were deposited. But I should feel a much higher gratification, if my daily engagements would permit me to meet with my brethren, the sons of the town, and interchange with them the feelings which belong to such a relation, and respond, in such manner as I might be able, at the moment, to sentiments suitable to such an occasion. Since this gratification is denied me, I take pleasure in saying that I feel proud in numbering myself, here in Boston, among those who hail from the "Granite State," the birthplace of a statesman who has acquired for himself the exalted appellation of "The Defender of the Constitution"; and more especially among the sons of the town of Peterborough, the nativity of many industrious, frugal, enterprising agriculturalists, the "*bone and sinews* of our country," and other men who have eminently excelled in the manufacturing art, at the bar, and upon the bench, in the senate and on the field. That the town of Peterborough may flourish in the coming century, as she has during the past, and continue to send forth her sons with the spirit of their fathers, to excel in all the useful occupations of life, is the sincere sentiment of one of her sons, and, gentlemen, your brother,

I. P. OSGOOD.

FRANKLIN, Oct. 21, 1839.

Gentlemen, — When I received your kind invitation to attend the celebration, I was determined to do so; but circumstances have occurred since which render it impossible for me to attend.

Although I cannot be present on the occasion, my heart and soul will be with you. I claim to be a native son of Peterborough, and feel proud of my maternal home. The occasion brings to my mind many pleasing

recollections of by-gone days, the days of my childhood, when seated with others of my father's family around the winter evening fire, listening to the traditionary tales of the first settlement of the town.

I will conclude this communication by proposing the following sentiment: The adopted sons of Peterborough; however distinguished or exalted may have been many of her native sons, may her adopted sons be equally distinguished.

Yours, in the bonds of affectionate brotherhood,

JOHN ANNAN.

NEWPORT, Oct. 22, 1839.

Gentlemen, — It would have given me great satisfaction to meet my early associates, and join with them in the festivities of that occasion.

Peterborough is dear to me, and I feel proud of being recorded among her sons, of whom so many have distinguished themselves in the different professions and departments of active life. She has within my own short recollection sent forth four or five respectable clergymen, and fifteen or sixteen lawyers, four members of Congress, and four or five respectable physicians. She can point to the Hon. Jeremiah Smith, for a long time Chief-Justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, truly a sage of the law, and a former Governor of this State, as one of her sons; and to Dr. Mussey, now of Cincinnati, as not less distinguished in the medical department; and to Gen. James Miller, not less distinguished in our military annals.

Suffer me, in conclusion, to offer the following sentiment: The citizens of Peterborough; may they continue to cherish literature and the arts and sciences; may they be distinguished for their morals and those virtues which elevate and ennoble man; and may she send forth men who shall protect and defend the rights of our country, and perpetuate our free and liberal institutions.

With sentiments of respect and high consideration,

Yours truly,

AMASA EDES.

BATH, Oct. 19, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I received your invitation a few days since to attend the Centennial Celebration of the settlement of the town of Peterborough, on the 24th inst.

My attachments to my native place are strong, and though I have spent a large portion of my life elsewhere, those attachments have not diminished, nor has a link of the chain that bound me there ever been severed.

It would give me great pleasure to be present with you and participate in the celebration, but it is otherwise ordered; and though I may never again see the place of my birth, or again mingle with my fellow-citizens there, for whom I have such strong sympathies and attachments, I may be present with you *in spirit* on this occasion.

I was early taught to entertain high respect for that hardy and enterprising band who, in 1739 and the ten following years, established the

settlement of our native town. They possessed certain traits of character of high excellence doubtless mingled with faults of as strong a character, yet those of excellence so far predominated as to give a marked and distinctive character of excellence to the people of the town.

I trust some one of her many talented sons will be found ready, on this occasion, to do justice to their memory and character. Permit me, gentlemen, to offer you the following sentiment: May the generation that now is exhibit all the excellencies of character, without any of the faults, of the generation that is past, for the instruction of those who are to come; that the town may continue to have a name and a praise, for the worth of her citizens, when those present are gone from the stage and rest with their fathers.

I am, gentlemen, very truly yours,

JONATHAN SMITH.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19, 1839.

Gentlemen, — Your kind invitation of the 8th instant came duly to hand. I have delayed replying, hoping to do it in person; but I very much regret that my engagements are such as I cannot remove, and will consequently prevent my attendance.

That you will have a gratifying celebration I have no doubt, and that you may is the sincere wish of

Yours very truly,

JEREMIAH SMITH.

BOSTON, Oct. 22, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I have delayed giving you an answer, in hopes of being able to be present on the interesting occasion, and now I am truly sorry to find myself unable to leave my business affairs at this time; otherwise it would afford me the greatest pleasure to be present.

It is pleasant to visit the home of our childhood at any and all times, but especially on such an occasion as the present.

Your obedient servant,

DAVID CARTER.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 15, 1839.

Gentlemen, — Nothing could give me greater pleasure than to be present at your celebration, but circumstances will necessarily prevent. Allow me, therefore, to express myself, though now adopted elsewhere, still a son of my native town, good and true to the core in feeling and every wish for her prosperity, and to propose the following sentiment, as my *representative* among you: Our native town: her *intelligence*, the *boast;* her *success*, the *joy;* her *hills*, memory's dearest *shrine;* her *all*, the *pride* of her absent sons.

With great respect, I am yours, etc.,

HORACE MORISON.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 15, 1839.

Gentlemen, — Your letter of the 9th instant was received, inviting me to attend a Centennial Celebration in Peterborough on Thursday, the 24th of October. Nothing could give me more pleasure than meeting on that occasion my townsmen, the inhabitants of Peterborough, and her many distinguished sons from abroad; but circumstances beyond my control render it impossible. I trust, however, I shall be there in spirit, and, like a true-hearted son, enjoy in imagination the festivities in which I can take no part. I hope my native town will accept, in my absence, the following lyric,* from one of the humblest of her bards, as a fit offering on such an occasion.

Accept for yourselves personally my warmest regards, and believe me truly your fellow-townsman,

NATHANIEL H. MORISON.

MUSIC — "*The Winding Way.*" Sung by Messrs. Carter and Dunbar.

8th — Non-Resident Owners in our Manufacturing Establishments; for their liberality in aiding the public and private institutions of Peterborough, we return them our sincere thanks.

BOSTON, Oct. 22, 1839.

Gentlemen, — I have received your letter of the 16th instant, with a polite invitation to attend the celebration of the First Centennial Anniversary of the town of Peterborough, on the 24th instant. I much regret that it will not be in my power to attend said celebration, as it would afford me much pleasure to meet my friends and acquaintances at that place.

I have known Peterborough for about sixty years, and observed with pleasure its rapid growth in population, agriculture, manufactures, arts, sciences, literature, etc., etc.

My first visit to Peterborough I will relate, merely to show some of the changes that have taken place since my recollection. Fifty-nine years ago last April, a man with a drove of cattle passed my father's house in New Ipswich, on his way to a pasture for his cattle in the town of Hancock. Being in want of assistance to drive his cattle, and seeing a flaxen-haired boy at the door, he bargained with my father that I should assist him on his way as far as the mills in Peterborough, distance ten miles; for this service to be performed by me, my father received *ninepence, lawful money;* we arrived at the mills — a rickety saw and grist-mill, standing on the site where the Peterborough Factory now stands — about four o'clock. The man of cattle then offered me half as much as he had paid my father, and a night's lodging, if I would go on with him through the woods three miles to Taylor's Tavern. I readily consented, and pocketed the cash. At that time there was only one house (Dr. Young's) between the mills and the tavern. All the rest of the way was a dreary wilderness. But enough of my first visit to Peterborough. I propose, with your permission, gentlemen, the following toast: The first settlers of the town of Peterborough; the Smiths, the Wilsons, the Steeles, the Morisons, and many others; celebrated for their industry,

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* Inserted on page 311.

perseverance, prudence, and honesty. Also their sons and grandsons, whether at home or abroad: they have done honor to themselves, to their native town, and to their country. Their virtues and talents have shed a lustre on every profession, political, judicial, ecclesiastical, medical, military, and scientific. *

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL APPLETON.

P.S. — Gentlemen, if you have not on hand more toasts than time, I beg leave to propose the following: The first matrons of Peterborough, who, like the matrons of King Solomon's time, laid their hands to the spindle and distaff, made fine linen and sold it to the merchants, † and looked well to the ways of their household. Also, their fair daughters of the third and fourth generation, who, without handling the distaff, by the almost magical use of the spinning-jenny and the shuttle, can clothe themselves in silks and fare sumptuously every day.

BOSTON, Oct. 19, 1839.

Gentlemen, — Your favor of the 16th inst. came duly to my hands, and I accept and thank you for the invitation to attend the Centennial Anniversary of your town on Thursday next.

I fear that it may be impracticable for me to be absent from Boston at that time, and shall much regret if such shall prove to be the fact. In any event, my sympathies and feelings will be with you; for I have witnessed with lively interest the growth and improvement of Peterborough, and find it my pride and pleasure to associate with her sons.

Very respectfully yours,

SAMUEL MAY.

Should I be prevented being with you on the interesting occasion, allow me to offer through you as a sentiment: The town of Peterborough; forward in the ranks of agriculture and manufactures; high in the scale of education, morals, and religion; she has sent forth her full quota of eminent and excellent laborers in Church and State. May she go on "prospering and to prosper."

BOSTON, Oct. 23, 1839.

Gentlemen, — This will be handed you by my son. I regret very much that I cannot be with you to-morrow, but having only within a few minutes returned from a journey of some fifteen or sixteen days, it is impossible that I can have that pleasure. I have many pleasant reminiscences connected with Peterborough. Born, as it were, upon the borders of the town, her brooks and rivers were familiar to me, for I was in the habit of fishing from them the wily trout, before factories were hardly thought of, other than the then common ones for manufacturing meal and boards. I

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* Among my acquaintances may be reckoned Judge Smith, General Wilson, Doctor Smith, of Cincinnati, Rev. Mr. Morison, General Miller, etc., etc.

† Fifty years ago the writer of this kept a small store at New Ipswich, and exchanged tea, sugar, coffee, pins, needles, etc., for home-spun fine linen, made by the matrons and fair daughters of Peterborough.

should there find myself surrounded by many old friends and acquaintances, and might, perhaps, point out in the assembly the man who used to purchase of me the skins of the muskrat,* which I entrapped to supply myself with change for election and training days; and I trust I should then meet my much respected and ever valued friend† — Peterborough's most enterprising son, — who, when I came of age, and was about to leave New England to seek my fortune and business in Western wilds, unsolicited, took me by the hand and established me in business with himself in Keene; a change which no doubt has much promoted my prosperity and happiness, and for which I trust I shall ever feel grateful.

With manufacturing in Peterborough I can claim an early connection, as well as one of more recent date. More than forty years ago I was an operative, and used to set card-teeth by hand for one of her citizens, for which I was paid fourpence a pair, not in cash, but "store pay." By close application in my leisure hours, I could set about one and a half or two pairs in a week. I was an owner in the Peterborough Factory, and was present at the commencement of its operations in 1810, and that, I believe, was the second cotton factory in the State; since then I have been interested in *most* of the factories established there, and have done business to a considerable extent for them *all.*

In many towns where manufactories have been established within the last twenty years, the inhabitants have looked upon them, and especially upon the proprietors who were non-residents, with jealousy and distrust; but it has not been so with the citizens of Peterborough. They have been governed by more enlightened and liberal views, and with few, very few, exceptions, they have fostered and aided the corporations by all the means in their power; and from them the proprietors abroad have ever received the most kind and courteous consideration and support, for which they are entitled and through you I would most respectfully present to them, my sincere acknowledgments. To you, gentlemen, personally, for your kind invitation to be present on this interesting occasion of the Centennial Celebration, I tender my thanks, and offer the annexed sentiment to be used as you may deem proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ISAAC PARKER.

Peterborough: prosperity to her people, to her manufactories, her fur trade and her fisheries.

MUSIC — "*Hill of Zion.*" Sung by the Choir.

9th — Our Adopted Citizens; may we never in action or in word say to any one of them, Thou art the son of a stranger.

John H. Steele, Esq., rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — Had I the ability to do justice to my own feelings, or to the feelings of many others who like myself are adopted citizens of Peterborough, the present occasion would have been eagerly sought. No minor considerations could have prevented me from embracing this op-

* Jonas Loring; for a long time the only hatter in town.
† Samuel Smith, Esq.

Jno. H. Sleeper

portunity to return thanks, in the warmest language of the heart, for the many proofs we have received, not only of your kindness and open-handed hospitality, but for the free, warm-hearted welcome invariably extended to every stranger whose fortune it is to make his residence among you.

No diversity of opinions has at any time prevented that cordial interchange of sentiment or free discussion which is the parent of every improvement. All here meet as men should meet. No fancied distinctions or differences of opinions are suffered to destroy that sociability which is at once the pride and boast of Peterborough.

The stranger, as well as native, share alike the honors and pleasures of society. No wonder, then, that your sons, where'er they roam, in whatsoever situation they may be placed, whether on the tented field, in the senate, on the bench, in the pulpit, at the bar, following the plough, or hammering on the anvil, — all cheerfully own their native home, all proudly hail from Peterborough.

Mr. President, if the sentiment which has brought me forward is to be considered as a call *now* made on the native citizens of this town, never, in action or in word, to say to any one of their adopted citizens, "Thou art the son of a stranger," it will not convey a reproach either now or in times gone by. No, sir; nearly thirty years' residence among you enables me to say that for the past you can have no reflections to cast; the stranger is here sure to find a resting-place, a *home.*

To those who have never wandered far from their paternal firesides, I would say: You know not the feelings of the immigrant, the longing desires of the homeless stranger. No one who has wandered far from the home of his youth but must have felt a loneliness, a depression of spirits, a yearning after his native land, an almost irresistible impulse to return to the place that gave him birth; it is of little consequence where that place may be, whether on the borders of the burning desert, amid the chilling blasts of the frozen North, or the yet more fatal stagnant swamps of the South. Let him be a forced or willing exile; let him have received the kindest or the most cruel treatment that the ingenuity of man can inflict; all, all, cannot, will not, and, let me add, should not, wean him from his native land. He that can forget the land that gave him birth must be unworthy to be called an adopted citizen of any other. Such a man deserves not the sympathy of others. On such a being the kind and generous greetings of his adopted home are lost. He careth not whether you say to him, Thou art welcome, stranger, or that "Thou art the son of a stranger." Far different are the feelings of him who never hears the name of his native land without emotion. Although alive to the interests of the home of his childhood, he will not neglect or forget the interests of his adopted home. By such a man a cheerful, hearty welcome will be duly appreciated; it will cheer him on, and bring forth whatever there may be of the man in him; while a different reception, if it did not destroy, would paralyze his future efforts, and perhaps extinguish forever all the energy of his character. His usefulness would be impaired, his previous acquirements lost, and all his future prospects blasted; the home of his adoption would only be able to number one more human being among them, who would probably live a life of wretchedness instead of one of usefulness, and die a neglected, forgotten stranger.

Yes, fellow-citizens, on you in a great measure depends the usefulness of every stranger who may permanently settle among you. It is true you cannot give youth to the aged, neither can you make the stupid active, nor yet entirely wean the sluggard from his slothful ways; but

you have, time and again, by your open-heartedness, not only encouraged all who were disposed to help themselves, but have effectually rebuked, both by precept and example, the vicious and evil-inclined. Many a youth, who from previous associations had acquired a thoughtless, if not a ruinous, habit of extravagance, has been by the example of your industry reclaimed, and made to bless the day that led him to choose this as his abiding-place.

Mr. President, the allusions of the orator of the day to the old meeting-house on yonder hill brought forward in bold relief the remembrance of one of Peterborough's brightest, noblest sons; one whose influence has contributed much towards giving a distinct character to the town. A friend whose departed spirit, if permitted to leave the realms of bliss where it long since has taken its abode, is now within these walls. The noble, manly, generous spirit that animated him while here must now look down on this crowded assembly, while, with a tear on his manly cheek, ready to drop and wash away all that his purer soul finds to condemn, his cheerful eye eagerly scans this animated collection of human beings, and returns thanks to the Author of all good for the prosperity of his native town.

Mr. President, I hardly need add that I allude to your departed brother, John Smith, Esq. If Peterborough can boast of a better, more useful, brighter, purer-hearted son than was John Smith, I know him not. That she can point to many whose exterior, both in dress and address, comes much nearer to what is generally termed a finished gentleman, no one will doubt. But where now is the man who never lets a human being pass him unheeded; whose ever active mind and ready talent can draw forth alike the budding powers of childhood, or those of ripened age; who is ever ready to aid, council, or direct, with wisdom, purse, or hand, his fellow-man? Such a man was John Smith. With an address which to a stranger appeared as rough and rugged as the mountains which surround his native town, he possessed a heart as tender and pure as ever animated the breast of man. To him I owe more than I can express. He was not only a friend, but a father. He taught me to believe that there is nothing impossible; nothing that a willing mind and active hand cannot accomplish. I yet seem to hear his voice reproving me for saying, *I cannot do it!* He would say, "Steele, Steele, you booby, why don't you try, and not stand there looking as if you were in a trance?" Shade of my departed friend, permit me to say that your reproofs, councils, and aid have not, I hope, been entirely lost.

But, Mr. President, I detain you, and keep back others who are much abler, from giving to you and this assembled multitude matter more pleasing and better suited to the present occasion. Yet I must beg your patience for a few minutes longer. I cannot sit down, sir, without saying one word to the ladies. In attempting so to do I am not compelled, but willingly throw myself on their well-known generous kindness. It has so often been said that it is believed, at least by every gay Lothario, that the way to win the good-will of the ladies is to flatter them. Is this so, ladies? If it is, I had better stop where I am. Should I at this time of life attempt to turn flatterer, it would, it must, prove a failure. No, I shall not attempt it. My fate has been cast in a sterner mould; nor do I believe one word of this slander. Such a libel on your good, sound sense and well-known discriminating powers must have been penned or uttered by one of those nondescript beings frequently seen hovering around the fair daughters of the land, like a gay, gaudy butterfly around the beautiful half-blown rose, and like that transient insect chased away by the approach of the first active, useful, busy bee. Would you know them, mark

well their confident air, their tight-bound waist and gay clothing, the closely cramped toes, the never-forgotten silk or embroidered kid gloves, the rattan or other useless switch. Useless, did I say? Not so; its repeated raps on their well-polished boots or full-cushioned legs will at least give you warning that a flatterer is approaching; and if age has furnished him with a beard, you will be almost sure to see the face half covered with a carefully curled pair of whiskers. Although they are called, as I suppose by way of derision, "ladies' men," avoid them as you would a viper. They are mere peacocks. Their hats may be of the latest fashion, but there is nothing in their heads. With the lighter, vainer portion of young and thoughtless females, who, like themselves, think gay clothing must make their charms irresistible, they may pass for men. To such, if any such there are among the many bright faces around us, I have nothing to say. They must be left to smoother tongues than mine.

It is to the more staid and useful I would say, Go on as you have done; encourage your husbands, sons, and brothers in everything that is manly and generous.

To you are or will be committed the destinies of our town. The results of the past are before us; the changes and improvements are great. Will the coming century produce as great? No one here can answer. No one here will in all probability live to see. One hundred years hence, when your descendants assemble, as we this day assemble, to commemorate the second centennial anniversary of their native or adopted town, will they be able, as I believe you *now* are, to say that all the good our mothers taught us we have kept and practised. To your mothers, as well as to yourselves, do we mainly, if not entirely, owe that public spirit, that love of order, that open, generous, manly bearing, which always did, and still does, distinguish your husbands, sons, and brothers.

To your influence are we, the adopted citizens of Peterborough, indebted for our privileges. Your influence enables us to say that this is truly the home of the stranger.

Guard well the rising generation. To you, to your guidance, it must be committed. *Must?* No! I take back that word, and say, To none other should so important a trust be committed. Without your fostering care, without the anxious care and instruction of a mother, what would man be? Deprive man of his natural and best companion, woman, he would then be, or soon become, a fit companion for the tiger. Degrade and debase woman from her proper sphere, and man at once sinks to the level of a savage. Give her full and free scope, and man rises to a higher destiny as fast or faster than generations pass away.

Mr. President, permit me to offer as a sentiment: Peterborough; may she ever continue to be, as she has heretofore been, the stranger's home.

Rev. Elijah Dunbar rose and said: —

Mr. President, — An adopted son of Peterborough, following the example of our respected friend who has just spoken, would also briefly respond to the kind notice which has been offered. My adoption, which was confirmed forty years ago yesterday, *you* well remember. The venerable council of the ordaining clergy, with a very few exceptions, are gathered to their fathers; and it is with a great, though a mournful, satisfaction that we welcome the last survivor in this immediate vicinity, the Rev. Mr. Ainsworth, to our celebration. It reminds us of his venerable

colleagues whom we shall see no more till we meet on the shores of eternity.

My long residence here: my long-continued and intimate connection with generations past and present: the continued kindness and support I have experienced; and the identity of national descent, from Scotch origin, almost persuade me that I am a native.

The enterprise, the benevolence, and the liberality of the natives of Peterborough form a distinguished and highly honorable characteristic.

Among the evidences this day exibited, permit me to notice the handsome military display. It may remind us of those who fell and those who triumphed in the war of 1755; of the enterprise, perseverance, and intrepidity of our Revolutionary heroes; and of the more recent glory of the battle-field of Bridgewater.

I would offer this sentiment: The citizen-soldiery of Peterborough; may they continue to cultivate the martial spirit; may they be ever prompt at their country's call; and he that hath no sword, let him sell his coat and buy one.

Mr. Thomas Payson rose and said:—

Mr. President, — The toast to which my valued friend, an adopted son of Peterborough, has so justly and happily, although, considering the time is so far spent, rather too lengthily, responded, I had intended to notice in a more extended manner than, from the lateness of day, is now in my power. That friend has handsomely anticipated something which I contemplated to say on this occasion, as one of the fortunate, though lately adopted, citizens of this memorable town.

I will, however, with your good leave, state, in a few plain words, what my impressions of the inhabitants were before I knew them.

In early life it was my chance to make acquaintance with one of the natives of Peterborough, and to have no very favorable report of some others. He possessed not a few of the reputed characteristics of his fellow-townsmen, which the distinguished orator of the day has so justly and impartially portrayed.

This personal knowledge of one and historical reputation of others predisposed me to entertain no very favorable opinion of the place and people. Nor was this opinion lessened by the story of the outrageous application of Lynch law to an unhappy clerical subject, who had by that same people for many years been retained in the sacred office, to his own and his people's disgrace.

With these things fresh in my recollection, it so happened that a few years since I was called on to consider the proposal of making this same Peterborough my place of rustication.

Can any one of this respectable auditory who hears me indulge in wonder that, under such circumstances, I should feel a strong repugnance at making my future residence and closing my life among a people so famous? I assure you, sir, that repugnance was great, and that this was among the last places in New England, of which I had any knowledge, that I should voluntarily have made my home.

Circumstances, however, overruled my volition and repugnance. Twelve years since I removed to this town. How great was my suprise and disappointment, after a short residence here, in the appearance of the place and in the character of the people, I hardly need now repeat. I had

looked at them through a foggy medium. I had judged of the *whole* by a *part* only. Instead of being stared at as a stranger, and treated as the son of a stranger, I found myself among a friendly set of men, was taken cordially by the hand, kindly and even respectfully received, and treated as a native son or brother. The people with as few exceptions as can be found in any other place, were open-hearted, hospitable, independent, intelligent, and more than usually well read, with good feelings and good manners. Modern degeneracy had not yet reached them. Had I come earlier in life among them, and possessed a reasonable talent for improvement, I might have profited more by their society and example. As it is, I owe them much. May the legitimate fruits of such social qualities constantly crown their future honest enterprise and labor.

In conclusion, allow me to offer the following toast: The pioneers of Peterborough in the eighteenth century, their posterity of the present day, and the generation yet to come; may their progressive advancement in knowledge, morals, the arts of life, and religion, prove commensurate with their years and their privileges.

MUSIC — "*Home, Sweet Home.*" By the Band.

10*th* — *The Agriculturists, Mechanics and Merchants of Peterborough*, the three great founts of our industry and prosperity; may they ever encourage and support each other.

William Scott, Esq., rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — I will make a few remarks in answer to that part of the sentiment just given, touching the class of citizens to which I am proud to belong, and to which belonged those bold pioneers, the first settlers and fathers of the town. The cultivation of the earth is the primitive and the most honorable employment in which men can engage. Every individual should feel an interest in agriculture. Considered as an art it is the foundation of all others. The wealth and unparalleled prosperity of this country may be attributed to the industry of the tiller of the soil. From this source all real wealth is derived. The employment is healthful and invigorating to body and mind, and operates powerfully and beneficially upon the morals and constitutions of those engaged in it, giving a right and permanent tone to our national character. I believe that open-hearted generosity and hospitality are more generally found to animate the rough, home-spun farmer than the more polite citizens of cities and villages; and if they take temperance and virtue for their guide, the tillers of the soil enjoy more of ease, more of the real luxuries of life, and undisturbed sleep than the debilitated inmates of counting-houses and city work-shops. They may justly be said to be the happiest class of people on earth. The torch of liberty has ever burned with a purer light on the hills and mountains, among the farmers, than in cities and villages. This was the case in Switzerland in the days of William Tell, and thus it was in this country in the struggle for independence. The agriculturists compose, in a great measure, the present defence of the Union. Standing upon the soil which they own and cultivate, they are every ready to catch their muskets and march to defend the liberties of the country. They can be relied upon with more certainty, in case of sudden invasion, than those engaged in commerce and

trade, not being so likely to suffer loss by sudden fluctuations; for from these sources the farmer derives only a part of his luxuries, the necessaries of life being produced by the labor of his own hands. Notwithstanding these high claims in favor of the persuit of agriculture, it has been considered in years gone by as a low, unpopular, if not vulgar, employment. This undoubtedly arose from the sudden accession of wealth amassed by merchants and commercial men, and the high price paid for labor in and about our manufacturing establishments. These causes led many of our young men to forsake the occupation of their fathers in hopes of finding a more speedy road to wealth, preferring the meanest drudgery in the shop or counting-house to the hoe and rake. To such an extent has this unbounded desire of wealth been carried, that our counting-houses in particular have become full to overflowing. The slightest revulsion in trade turns loose upon society numbers of no profession, no occupation. Being so long habituated to a city or village life, to return to the occupation of their fathers, they become dead weights upon the community, — mere idle loafers, a name unknown in the days of our fathers.

But, Mr. President, I believe the days in which agricultural pursuits have been considered degrading are numbered. Many of our most respectable mechanics, as well as professional men, have, within a few years, turned their attention to the tilling of the soil, occupying the hours they can spare from the calls of their customers or books in the healthful as well as profitable pursuit of agriculture. This has caused a rise of lands, particularly in the vicinity of this village, almost beyond belief. This course, continued throughout the country, will create a taste for agriculture, and will prove instrumental in causing more of our youth to embark in this laudable pursuit. The time is not far distant, I hope, when our schools and colleges will be more anxious to instruct our youth in agriculture than in the dead and almost useless languages.

A few words to my brother farmers, and I will close. While we are pursuing that best and most independent of all arts, agriculture, let us not forget the duties which we owe to our fellow-citizens. Let us aid with a liberal hand and cheerful heart the various useful institutions of our country, encourage and support our mechanics and merchants. As to the lawyers and doctors, may we be so fortunate as to need but little of their assistance.

I conclude by offering as a sentiment: The laboring portion of our citizens; may their numbers be increased by accessions from the ranks of those of no profession, until all become usefully employed.

Mr. A. C. Blodgett rose and said:—

Mr. President,— after so distinguished a display of talent and eloquence as that which has preceded me, I must acknowledge I feel somewhat diffident in attempting to make any response to the sentiment which has just been offered. But, sir, we have some thoughts which we won't conceal, some feelings which we can't disguise. Perhaps, sir, no one feels more than I do how much we owe to each other, not only in regard to our welfare and prosperity in business, but in the kindnesses and courtesies of civil and social life. It is but a few years since, when I was as it were but a youth and just entering the drama of the world, that I left my native home and came a stranger among you; "but a welcome smile and a friendly face" seemed to whisper in fancy's ear that, though a stranger, I should not long be among strangers. You have been pleased to take me by the hand and adopt me as a citizen, and now I feel that I am one among my townsmen who have come together within this temple, this day, to com-

memorate that epoch in our history which lies buried beneath the dust and darkness of a by-gone century. One hundred years have now rolled away since our forefathers first broke the gloom of that wilderness, which for thousands of years before had hung brooding over the land upon which we now live, move, breathe, and tread; and, standing as we now do on the line which divides one century from another, looking backward through the vista of years, let us for a moment contemplate Peterborough as she then was, a howling and hostile wilderness. The same old Contoocook, whose waters now whirl by us, passing on through flowery vales and banks of green, moving and aiding in her course almost every mechanical invention and enterprise, was then overshadowed by sylvan bowers, and her shores trod by the feet of savages. In the midst of this wild and romantic scene the echo of the white man's axe is heard by day, and his lowly hut receives his wearied frame by night; but he receives not there the feast to which as a reward for his daily labor he is entitled. "His needy couch and frugal fare" are all the luxuries of his home and fireside. Day after day the echo answers back again, until here and there is to be seen a little cleared spot, a log-house, and a field of grain springing up in the wilderness. They have now, to be sure, a home in the forest: but they have not the comforts nor conveniences of civilized life. Afar off in the world lay those blessings in store. For more than thirty years did they seek abroad, in other towns, all their merchandise.

Their numbers at length invited hither the merchant; and how willing and ready the farmers and mechanics were to sustain him, you, Mr. President and fellow-citizens, can judge for yourselves by the specimen of calico which the orator has exhibited to you this day, and for which one hundred pounds of butter was paid. And for the same compensation at this day I would cheerfully part with twenty such dress-patterns of the same quality. But, sir, I do not wish to be understood by this that farmers and mechanics are not as ready and willing to sustain the merchants as they were at that day. I say it to you, sir, and to all this assembled multitude, in the language of sincerity and truth, that I have ever found them ready to pay a fair and honorable consideration for all necessary articles of merchandise. It is not they, nor the want of encouragement and support from them, which retards the prosperity of the merchant: but it is the spirit of jealousy, envy, rivalry, and competition which exists among the merchants themselves that is so detrimental to their prosperity. If the merchants here do not prosper as well, and heap up golden treasures as fast as they wish, let them blame and censure each other, and not the farmers and mechanics who have patronized them with a generous hand and liberal heart. But while I as a merchant feel grateful for the liberal patronage so generously bestowed upon me, I cannot think the reciprocity is all, or should be all, on one side. If I buy one hundred pounds of butter or cheese, or bushels of corn or grain, of the farmer, and pay him a fair market price, and he buys a corresponding amount of goods of me, and pays a fair price, I am at a loss to know whose business it is, or should be, to say, "Thank ye." I owe to him, and feel under the same obligations, which man should ever feel due and bound to perform towards his fellow-man,— that of philanthropy and good-will. The great object of us all is to be free, independent, and happy; but there is a mutual dependence which we have upon each other, and a mutual advantage arising from it, which has a tendency to refine and perfect those blessings, not only as relative to business, but in all the relations of life. Trade in this place has had its ups and downs, its lights and shades. Its whole history is checkered o'er with the smiles and frowns of fortune; for here fortunes have been lost and won. Stores have multiplied from one to seven; the

amount of goods has increased from two thousand to thirty thousand dollars. Circumstances have invited merchants from abroad, and fortune wafted them away to crowded cities and climes that echo farther West. Here people have commenced trade in early life, and continued until it was in the "sear and yellow leaf," and their children have risen up and become merchants abroad in the world, and ere another century shall roll away, who can dream of the changes which time may bring about? All of us, who are now on the stage, will have passed through the dark wilds of life. Our stores, with all of our existence that is mortal, will alike have crumbled into dust beneath the ravages of time. As the old Persian monarch, when he sat upon the brow of the mountain "which looks o'er sea-born Salamis," and surveyed the vast multitude of human beings which composed his army, wept that, ere a hundred years should pass away, not one among them all would be numbered among the living, even so might we at this time and on this occasion weep that, of all who are here assembled, not one will come forth a living monument at the next Centennial Jubilee to rehearse to posterity the scenes of this day. It will be for their children and their children's children, who may rise up in generations to come, to read from history and tell from tradition.

My worthy friend who has preceded (Esquire Scott) has portrayed to you in glowing colors, "in thoughts that breathe and words that burn," the merits of his own profession, and how much the community and country are indebted to them for their strength and prosperity. They give a complexion to the age; they are the stamina of the land, the palladium of civil liberty, and the bulwark of public safety. Now, Mr. President, I acknowledge the truth and force of the gentleman's remarks. Every year that rolls round furnishes us with satisfactory proofs, as we behold the fruits of their industry and enterprise springing forth in flowers of beauty; and like that virtue which lives when beauty dies, ripening into the fruits of promise, while their sons and daughters are rising up to call the nation blest. But may I not, sir, with equal justice and pride, claim the same honors and merits not only for my own profession, but also for the mechanics, who, though silent and voiceless on this occasion, are by the works of their hands daily showing forth to the world in characters of living light, too bold and indelible to escape observation and admiration, how much this town and the whole country are indebted to them for their present flourishing and prosperous conditions? Under their auspices and emulation, as a community and nation, we are constantly rising in the scales of laudable improvements, and marching on from strength to strength in the fulness of prosperity. "All are but parts of one stupendous whole," a mutual coöperation and combination of men. Business and professions have their benign and salutary influence in heightening the charms of society, imparting a zest to life, and a weal to the land. Fortune, and the fate of things, has allotted to us different parts to perform on this transitory stage of action; and all are alike honorable in themselves, and essential props and pillars to each other. The professors alone elevate or depress the professions. Every noble feeling should then animate us to "act well our parts"; so that in all the various callings of genius and fortune we may look back upon the past without remorse, and forward to the future without fear, setting an example to the generations who may succeed us, which they shall be emulous to imitate, by making some laudable pursuit the object of each passing moment, with constant endeavors to grow wiser and better to the end of time. I will trespass no longer, Mr. President, upon the patience of the audience. I will only, in conclusion, offer as a sentiment: Mental endowment; may its bright and chastening influence be breathed into all ranks of society, and equalize all business and professions.

MUSIC — "*Mehul.*" Sung by the Choir.

11*th* — *The Music, Vocal and Instrumental;* may their combined and animating influence never be exerted for any but a useful purpose.

MUSIC — "*Multitude of Angels.*" Sung by the Choir, led by Mr. Milton Carter.

12*th* — *Woman,* the last and best gift of God. May her amiable qualities teach men to love virtue.

Gen. John Steele, Marshal of the Day, rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — We look back to the wives, sisters and daughters of the early settlers of this town. No hardship could discourage, no allurements divert them from industry. Although all their industry could not procure them costly attire, it gave them and their families comfortable clothing, and assisted their husbands and brothers to convert the wilderness into a field for the growth of rye, potatoes, and flax, and aided in the raising of sheep and cows to help in the support of the family. The mother taught her children that strength, honesty, and virtue were the rubies that were highly to be valued; that virtue and industry were the smoothest path to journey through life. They took much pride in keeping their children trim and neat, and regularly sent them to meeting. If they had shoes it was well; if not they must go that part of the season which was comfortable without. No excuse about dress, even if the feet were bare, would satisfy. If the youngster said no, the little bunch of rods was pointed to, and the youth thought it best not to have them taken down. After meeting, inquiry was made of the children about the text and sermon, and they were seated to say the catechism. Let us look back to the time when the eighty-three husbands and sons signed the virtual Declaration of Independence which was read this day by one of the signers. Cut off from all connection with the parent country, they were deprived of every article not only of luxury but of clothing. They had to depend entirely on the large or foot-wheel, with their skill in turning them. Not one word of complaint was heard. When a neighbor or friend came in, the buzzing wheel was set aside, and a cheerful conversation introduced. Soon came the song, — very often the "Battle of Boyne," and many others, as each one had a store of them. They passed the evening in cheerfulness. If a stranger was among them they made great exertions to treat him with the best they had. They sometimes talked on religion; were not very superstitious, although some few thought that a good sound Presbyterian stood the best chance in a future state. One of the elderly mothers,* on hearing that the reverend found fault with young men and women for dancing together, said, "The minister had better take his dram out of his own bottle, play his own fiddle, and let the young people's innocent amusements alone."

When the old ladies saw their children's children walking in the path they so highly recommended, it brought a smile of approbation on their wrinkled countenances.

Ladies of the present day! will you go back and view those old-fash-

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* Mrs. Gordon.

ioned women, though poorly dressed? I trust you can find something to venerate, something to admire in their characters. When you consider the vast importance of your precepts and example to your families and society at large, will you not think, with those good old dames, that honesty, wisdom, and virtue are the most precious ornaments to grace the youth of the present day?

MUSIC — "*The Mellow Horn.*" Sung by Two Young Ladies.

13*th* — *Emigrants;* well may we be proud of them. They exhibit in manhood characters that began their infancy on these our sterile hills. May they never forget the land that gave them birth.

Gen. James Wilson rose and said: —

MR. PRESIDENT, — I regret that I am called on to respond to the sentiment which has just been announced, and received with so much approbation by this great assembly. On looking over the list of sentiments yesterday, I was informed that the one just read was designed to call out that highly-respected, time-honored gentleman, Hon. Jeremiah Smith, of Exeter; a man who feels proud of the place of his nativity, and who on all proper occasions has a good word to say of and for old Peterborough. We should have been delighted to have seen that venerable and venerated man here, and to have heard from him, in his usual eloquent and forcible manner, his reminiscences of by-gone times.

He has indeed grown old, but not old enough yet to forget any good thing. His mind is richly-stored with varied learning, and his knowledge of the early history of the town, the peculiarities of its early inhabitants, his great fund of wit and anecdote connected with the first settlers, very far exceeds that of any living man; and there is now no one of the emigrants who could so well give an apt response to your highly-complimentary sentiment as that worthy octogenarian. I was heart-pained to learn, last evening, that his attendance is prevented by physical infirmity. In his absence I could have wished that another highly respected son of Peterborough, of the Smith family, had been here to have spoken in our behalf. I allude to one more nearly allied to you, Mr. President, — your eldest son, my most esteemed friend. We are of nearly the same age. Our friendship dates back to the days of our childhood. Our intimacy commenced in that little, square, hipped-roof school-house that formerly stood between your homestead and the homestead of my honored father. It was an intimacy in the outset characterized by the ardor of youth, and grew with our increasing years into the strong and unwavering friendship of mature manhood. There has never been a moment's estrangement. For thirty years no frost has chilled it, nor can it grow cold until the clods shall rumble upon our coffins. Glad, indeed, should I have been to have met once more my friend here, to have grasped him by the hand, to have looked upon his slender form and his pale features, to have listened to the tones of his clear voice, to have caught and treasured up the sentiments of a mind as clear as the atmosphere upon the summits of our native hills, and a heart as pure as the fountains that gush from their base. From the sad tidings that I hear of his declining health, I fear that I shall never meet him on this side the grave. May a merciful God bless him.

Well may Peterborough express her joy at the success of her absent sons, and pride herself upon them when she numbers such men as these among them.

Your sentiment, sir, breathes the prayer that we, the emigrants, may not forget the place of our nativity. I can hardly realize that I am an emigrant. True, sir, a wave of Providence has taken me up, wafted me onward, and cast me upon land not far distant. Although my domicile is in another place, it is here that I seem most at home. It is here that I enjoy all those pleasures derived from early recollections and early associations. It is here that every natural object that meets my eye has some story to relate of high interest to my mind; here every house and tree, stump and stone, hill and brook, presents to me the image of some old, familiar, well-loved friend. It is here that I meet my earliest friends, and their greeting seems warmer and more cordial here than elsewhere. It was here that I first enjoyed that substantial Peterborough hospitality so well understood and so highly appreciated by every one at all acquainted with the people of the town some thirty years ago. Let me not be understood, Mr. President, as drawing a comparison unfavorable to the good people with whom I am in more immediate intercourse at the present time. No, sir; I reside among an excellent and a worthy community, to whom I am bound in a large debt of gratitude. They have manifested towards me a kindness and a confidence vastly beyond my merits; and I am sure they will not esteem me the less for finding me susceptible of emotion at the recollections and fond associations of my childhood.

Forget Peterborough! How can I forget her? Why, sir, I was born just over *there*. The bones of my ancestors, both paternal and maternal, are deposited just over *there*. And among them *there* repose the remains of *my mother*. Oh! sir, it would be cold and heartless ingratitude to forget the place where one's earliest and best friend slumbers in death: —

> "Ingratitude! Thou marble-hearted fiend,
> More hideous, when thou show'st thee in a child,
> Than the sea-monster!"

Spare me, oh! spare me such a reproach. My prayer to heaven is, that when this eye shall grow dim, this tongue become dumb, when these lungs shall cease to heave, and this heart to throw off a pulsation, then this head and these limbs may be laid to crumble down to dust by the side of thine, *my mother!*

Sir, when I learned some few weeks ago that it was proposed to celebrate this Centennial Anniversary of the settlement of my native town, I resolved to be present; and in the expectation that I might be called on for a word, I began to search the by-places and corners of my mind to ascertain whether anything connected with Peterborough history had been stored away there that might be brought out to contribute to the interest of the occasion. When I heard who was appointed to address us, I had my fears that all the choicest and gayest flowers would be forestalled. My worst fears have been more than realized; but I have learned one thing with sufficient certainty, — that it is hopeless to attempt to keep any good thought out of the reach of the Morisons. They have a wonderful tact at seizing every grand, intellectual conception, and surprising facility in appropriating it exclusively to their own use. If, in my effort to brush up my recollection, I have had the good fortune to find anything worthy of remark, I find myself anticipated by my learned friend, the orator, to whose eloquent and excellent Address we have listened with so much interest. I ought, perhaps, to rejoice, that the evening is so far advanced that I have time only for a very few words, since all that I could have said has been so much better said by that worthy gentleman.

We have heard of the patriotism of our ancestors, of their unanimity in sustaining, and devotion to, the American cause in her early efforts for free government. They sought for a government of equal and impartial laws. Permit me to relate to you an anecdote illustrating their profound respect for sound laws.

My grandfather, as you know, Mr. President, kept a tavern in a small house, the shape of which sets all description at defiance; but its rickety remains are still to be seen upon the farm of your townsman, Capt. Wm. Wilson. A number of persons being assembled at his public house, an occurrence happened not unusual in the town at that time; to wit, a fight. There was a blow, and blood drawn. The defeated party threatened an immediate prosecution, but the spectators interposed their friendly advice, and a reference of the matter was agreed to by the parties. Five good men and true were designated as referees, who undertook to arbitrate upon the momentous matter. A solemn hearing was gone into. Every person present was inquired of as to the fact. After a deliberate hearing of the parties, their several proofs and allegations, the referees awarded that the aggressor should pay the cost of reference by a full treat for all the company, and give as damages to the injured man for the blood lost an equal quantity of cherry rum, which they appraised at half a pint. Ill-blood is sometimes created between the parties to a lawsuit that continues to circulate in the veins of succeeding generations. No such result followed the Peterborough lawsuit above reported. The wisdom of the referees was universally commended as manifested in their liberal award of damages, and their sagacity highly extolled for the discovery of an adequate and proper remedy for healing the wound inflicted upon "the peace and dignity of the State." The referees, the parties, and their witnesses all separated perfect friends.

We have heard that one of the prominent traits of the early inhabitants was a fondness for fun. It was on all occasions sought after, and it mattered little at whose expense it was procured. The name of one has already been mentioned, famous for his singular cast of mind and his witty sarcasms, — "Old Mosey Morison." I at this moment have in mind an anecdote which, by leave, I will relate, and if I omit the name of the individual upon whom the wit was perpetrated, I suppose the Chief Marshal of the day will take no exception to the relation of the story. Mosey Morison was here universally called, in common parlance, "Uncle Mosey." A young gentleman of no small pretensions to learning and high standing in this town, some forty years ago, went to the town of Nelson, then called Packersfield, to instruct a winter school. In the course of the winter "Uncle Mosey" happened to call at the store of a Mr. Melville, where a large number of the people of Packersfield were assembled, and there met the young Peterborough school-master. The school-master accosted him in the familiar salutation of "How do you do, Uncle Mosey?" The old gentleman, looking away, and manifesting no sign of recognition, replied in a cold, disdainful tone, "Uncle Mosey! uncle! to be sure! I'm na uncle of yours; I claim na relationship with you, young man." On his return to Peterborough, Mr. Morison related the incident to his blood relations, the Smiths, who asked him why he denied the relationship of the school-master. "Why," replied the old man, "I did na wish the people of Packersfield to understand that a' the relations of the Morisons were consummate fools."

I fear, Mr. President, that I am taking too much time in the relation of Peterborough stories. I will detain you with only one more. At one of the stores in town, upon a cold winter's night, quite a number of the people being present, the toddy circulated freely, and the company

became somewhat boisterous, and, as usual, some of them talked a good deal of nonsense. An old Mr. Morison,* who plumed himself—and not without much reason—upon his talking talent, had made several unsuccessful attempts to get the floor (in parliamentary phrase) and the ear of the house. The toddy had done its work too effectually for him, and he gave it up as desperate, and taking a seat in a retired part of the room he exclaimed, in utter despair, "A' weel, a' weel; here ye are, gab, gab, gab, gab, and common-sense maun set ahind the door."

I have watched with intense interest the wonderful improvements that have been carried forward in my native town within the last thirty years. When I was a boy, a weekly mail, carried upon horseback by a very honest old man by the name of Gibbs, afforded all the mail facilities which the business of the town required. Now, sir, we see a stage-coach pass and repass through this beautiful village every day, loaded with passengers and transporting a heavy mail. Your highways and bridges have been astonishingly improved, showing a praiseworthy liberality on the part of the town to that important subject. Your progress in agriculture, manufactures, and the mechanic arts exhibits striking evidence of the progress of improvement. Look abroad now upon the finely cultivated fields, the substantial fences, the comfortable, yea, elegant dwellings, the superb manufacturing buildings, the splendid churches and seminaries of learning, and in view of all these let the mind for a moment contrast it with the prospect which presented itself to the eye of the first settler as he attained the summit of the East Mountain, one hundred years ago. Then not a human habitation for the eye to repose on over the whole extent of this basin-like township, — one unbroken forest throughout the eye's most extensive range. No sound of music or hum of cheerful industry saluted his ear. It was only the howl of the savage beast, or the yell of the still more savage man, that broke the appalling stillness of the forest. What a wonderful change hath a hundred years wrought here, and what unshrinking energy of character was requisite to induce the commencement of the undertaking!

Some of the old objects of interest to me in my younger days are gone; their places, indeed, have been supplied by more expensive and elegant structures. Still, I must say, I regret their loss. And let me ask, Mr. President, are you quite sure that the loss may not manifest itself in some future time? I allude, sir, to the loss of the old church on the hill *there*, and the old beech-tree that stood hard by. I look, even at this period of life, upon that spot with a kind of superstitious reverence. Many are the noble resolutions that young minds have formed under the shade of the old beech-tree. Intellectual indolence is the prevailing fault of our times. Under the old beech, in my young days, the great and the talented men of this town used to assemble, and there discuss with distinguished power and ability the most important topics. Religion, politics, literature, agriculture, and various other important subjects were there discussed. Well, distinctly well, do I remember those debates carried on by the Smiths, the Morisons, the Steeles, the Holmeses, the Robbes, the Scotts, the Todds, the Millers, and perhaps I may be excused here for adding, the Wilsons and others. No absurd proposition or ridiculous idea escaped exposure for a single moment. A debater there had to draw himself up close, be nice in his logic, and correct in his language to command respectful attention. Abler discussion was never listened to anywhere. Strong thought and brilliant conceptions broke forth in clear and select language. They were reading men, think-

* Jonathan, the first mechanic in town, and the first male child born in Londonderry.

ing men, forcibly talking men, and sensible men. Bright intellectual sparks were constantly emanating from those great native minds, and, falling upon younger minds, kindled their slumbering energies to subsequent noble exertion. The immediate effect of those discussions could be easily traced in the beaming eye and the agitated muscles of the excited listeners. It was obvious to an acute observer that there was a powerful effort going on in many a young mind among the hearers, to seize, retain, and examine some of the grand ideas that had been started by the talkers. This rousing of the young mind to manly exertion, and aiding it in arriving at a consciousness of its own mighty powers, was of great advantage where the seeds of true genius had been planted by the hand of nature. If any of the Peterborough boys, within the last thirty years, have attained to anything like intellectual greatness, my life on it, they date the commencement of their progress from the scenes under the old beech-tree. A thousand times have I thought, Mr. President, if I had the world's wealth at my command I would cheerfully have bartered it all for the ability to talk as well as those men talked. Antiquity may boast of her schools of philosophy; the present may point to her debating clubs and lyceums, and talk loud as it will of modern improvement; give me the sound good-sense that rolled unrestrained from eloquent lips under the old beech, and it is of more worth than them all. I shall always respect the spot where it grew, and even now it grieves me to see the greensward that sheltered its roots torn too roughly by the ploughshare.

I had purposed, Mr. President, to have asked the attention of the audience to some few remarks upon the all-important subject of education. Old Peterborough has hitherto given her full share of educated men to the public, and I cannot but hope that she will not now permit her neighbors to go ahead of her in this particular. The shades of evening, however, admonish me that I must not trespass further. I must tender my thanks to the audience for the very kind and polite attention they have given me during the remarks I have felt constrained to make at this late hour in the afternoon. Allow me to say in conclusion: The sons and daughters of Peterborough, native and adopted; in all good deeds may they prove themselves worthy of the noble stock that has gone before them.

At the close of Gen. Wilson's speech, when it was so dark that the audience could hardly distinguish each others' faces, a general invitation was given to attend a ball in the evening at Col. French's. On motion of Albert Smith, the meeting was adjourned for a hundred years. And with shouting and the clapping of hands — joy mingling with many pensive thoughts,— the assembly of fourteen or fifteen hundred persons separated to lie down in their graves long before the next meeting shall be held.

MONDAY, NOV. 4, 1839.

Met agreeably to notice.

Voted, That the proceedings of the celebration, the sentiments, and the responses be published with the Address.

Voted, That the Committee of Invitation, *viz.*: John H. Steele, Albert Smith, and Stephen P. Steele, be requested to write to those absent who responded to sentiments, and also obtain and prepare for publication all the remarks made by others.

Voted, That a copy of the Address be deposited in each of the following places for safe keeping, *viz.:* In the Library of Dartmouth College; in the Library of Harvard College; in the Collections of the Historical Society of New Hampshire; and with the Antiquarian Society at Worcester, Mass.

Voted, That this meeting be dissolved.

ALBERT SMITH, *Secretary*.

The Committee return their thanks to the citizens of Peterborough for the confidence reposed in them, and hope that the services rendered will prove acceptable.

To the fault-finders, if any such there be, we would say (in the language of one of the boys who assisted in clearing away the decorations of the church), "You are welcome to this, but at your next Centennial Celebration you may do it yourselves."

APPENDIX.

A COPY OF THE RECORDS OF THE PROPRIETORS OF PETERBOROUGH, N. H., FROM JULY 25, 1738, TO MARCH 25, 1769, AND OTHER PAPERS.

JEREMIAH SMITH.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay:—

To his Excellency, Jonathan Belcher, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief, to the honorable his Majesty's Council and House of Representatives in Great and General Court assembled this fifth of December, 1737. Humbly shew:—

Samuel Heywood and others, the subscribers, that in the year 1721 they humbly preferred their petition to the Great and General Court then sitting, praying, for the reason there mentioned, they might be granted a tract of land upon the Souhegan River for a township, being without land for their posterity, and desirous they should not remove from out of the Province, but settle together under the laws and liberties of this government where they were born, and that the honorable House of Representatives then passed a vote in favor of them, but the Indian war then breaking out, they dropt their petition, and that ever since they have held together, and have petitioned this Honorable Court for a tract of unappropriated land for a township, and often had the encouragement and grant of the Honorable Board and House, as by their vote appears, but by the carelessness and indiscretion of those who appeared for the petitioners the petition never passed this Honorable Court till the year 1735, when the Honorable House of Representatives at first voted them a town six miles square, but presently, afterwards, the whole court voted they should be grantees of one of the townships which were then to be laid out, commonly called the line of towns, whereupon a committee of the petitioners repaired to the lands when laid out, to observe the circumstances and situation of the several townships, and among themselves made choice of one, hoping that the Honorable Committee of the General Court, appointed for that purpose, would admit the petitioners grantees of that township, but upon debate of that matter, the Honorable Committee assigned that township to the Hopkinton petitioners, which, although they do not doubt the justice of it, so far broke our committee's measures and discouraged them that they left their trust and

companions, and most of them were admitted grantees in other townships; but, however, the far greater number of the petitioners kept to their first intention, of settling together, though this accident made them quite irresolute for a season, and was the occasion that hitherto they have unhappily failed of it. Whereupon the petitioners would humbly represent to your Excellency and Honors, that their design of settling together was, as they conceive, laudable in itself, and conducing to the public good in cultivating the waste lands of the Province; that they have a long while persevered in this design, from the year 1721 to this time, wherein they have had many meetings, of all which they have kept particular accounts, whereby it appears, upon computation, that this matter has already stood them upward of five hundred pounds, as they are ready to show; that they have frequently been encouraged in their designs by this Honorable Court, and at last they thought they were crowned with success, but unfortunately to them it has happened otherwise.

Wherefore they would humbly supplicate your Excellency and Honors, that they may have a grant of the unappropriated lands of the Province, to them and their associates, of six miles square for a township, to be settled under such conditions and regulations as your Excellency and Honors, in your consummate wisdom, shall think fit. And your petitioners shall ever pray, etc.

Samuel Heywood.
Joseph Barrett.
Timothy Minott.
Ebenezer Hubbard.
Joseph Hubbard.
Jonathan Willey.
Samuel Wooley.
Benjamin Barrett.
Joseph Flagg.
Israel Putnam.
John Brown.
Joseph Stratton.
Amos Brown.
John Miles.
Uriah Wheeler.
Eleazer Stearnes.
Josiah Jones.
Peter Holden.
John Lamon.
William Wheeler.
Richard Wheeler.
Elnathan Jones.
John Whiting.
Thomas Cutler.
Jonathan Whitney.
Joseph Wheeler.
Hezekiah Wheeler.
Jonathan his X mark Harris.
Nathaniel Paige.
Thomas Fox.
Joseph Fitch.
James Horsemore.
Nathaniel Horsemore.
Mehitable her X mark Horsemore.
Thomas Jones.
John Dodd.
Peter Bulkley.
Joseph Brandon.
Benj. Barrow.
Isaac Whitney.
James McFarland.
Andrew Dunn.
Jonathan Prescott.
Edward Bulkley.
Asa Douglas.
Solomon Taylor.
Andrew McFarland.
Ebenezer Heath.
Thomas Wheeler.

In the House of Representatives, Dec. 6, 1737.

Read, and ordered that the prayer of the petition be granted; and John Chandler, Josiah Willard, Nahum Ward, Esq., are a committee to consider of some suitable place of the contents of six miles square, of the unappropriated lands of the Province, for the petitioners and their associates to bring forward the settlement of said township upon such conditions and regulations as may be proper. The committee to report hereon as soon as may be.

In the House of Representatives, Dec. 8, 1737.

Read, and ordered that the petition be granted, and the petitioners and their associates be, and hereby are, empowered, by surveyor and a chainman on oath, to survey and lay out a township, of the contents of six miles square, in some of the unappropriated lands of the Province, suitable for a township, and that they return a plat thereof to this court within twelve months, for confirmation.

And for the more effectual bringing forward the settlement of said new town, ordered that there be sixty-three house-lots laid out in a suitable and defencable manner, one of which to be for the first settled minister, one for the second settled minister, and one for the school, each of said three lots to draw equal divisions with the other grantees of the said sixty lots. That the grantees do within three years from the confirmation of the plan have settled on each home lot a good family.

And in order thereto, that they build thereon a dwelling-house of eighteen feet square and seven feet studs, at the least, and finish the same, and have well-fenced and brought to English grass, or ploughed, six acres on each of the home lots; that they settle an Orthodox minister, and build a decent, convenient meeting-house for the public worship of God; and that Col. Josiah Willard and Capt. John Hobson, with such as shall be appointed by the Honorable Board, be a committee for admitting the grantees or settlers; and that they take effectual care that no persons are admitted as such who have had any grant for the space of three years; and that each grantee give bond to the Province treasurer or his successor, in the sum of forty pounds, for his faithful fulfilling or complying with the terms or conditions of the grant; and if any of the said settlers fail of performing the said conditions, then his or their rights or share to revert to, and be at the disposition of, the Province.

Sent up for concurrence.

J. QUINCY, *Speaker.*

In Council, Dec. 14, 1737, read and concurred, and William Dudley, Esq., is joined in the affair.

J. WILLARD, *Secretary.*

January 16, consented to.

J. BELCHER.

Copy examined.

SIMON FROST, *Dept. Sec.*

WOBURN, March 17, 1737-8.

At a meeting of the committee appointed by the Great and General Court for admitting grantees or settlers into a township granted to the petitioners and their associates, whose names are entered in a petition of Sam'l Heywood and others, *viz.:* Wm. Dudley, Josiah Willard, and John Hobson, Esqs., the following persons were admitted, they not having had any grant of land within three years last past, to wit:—

Joseph Barrett, Petitioner, Timothy Minott, Jonathan Wooley, Sam'l Wooley, Benj. Barrett, Joseph Flagg, Israel Putnam, John Brown, Joseph Stratton, Amos Brown, John Miles, Uriah Wheeler, Eleazer Stearns, Peter Holden, John Lamon, Wm. Wheeler, Richard Wheeler, Elnathan Jones, Jonathan Whitney, Joseph Wheeler, Hezekiah Wheeler, Jonathan Harris, Nathaniel Page, Thomas Fox, Joseph Fitch, James Hosmore, Nath'l Hosmore, Mehitable Hosmore, John Dodd, Peter Bulkley, Joseph Brandon, Benj. Barrow, Isaac Whitney, Andrew Dunn, Edward Bulkley, Solomon Tailor, James McFarland, Ebenezer Heath, Thomas Wheeler;

Henry Wylee, associate in the room of Sam'l Heywood; Alex. Cockburn, associate in the room of Ebenezer Hubbard; John Prescott, associate in the room of Joseph Hubbard; Richard Gridley, associate in the room of Josiah Jones; Dudson Kiluep, associate in the room of John Whiting; Ezekiel Lewis, Jr., associate in the room of Thomas Cutler; James Smart, associate in the room of Thomas Jones; John Wilson, associate in the room of Andrew McFarland; Jonathan Prescott, Jr., associate in the room of Jonathan Prescott; Nathan Brooks, associate in the room of Asa Douglas; Jonathan Hubbard, associate in the room of Joseph Fitch; Isaac Gridley, Charles Prescott, John Wheeler, Sam'l Cox, William Clark, Peter Bliss, Hugh Sunderland, Amos Wood, Roland Cotton, John Healy, Edward Fennell.

Dated as above.

WM. DUDLEY, }
JOSIAH WILLARD, } *Committee.*
JOHN HOBSON, }

[For a report of the Surveyor, Joseph Wilder, Jr., with a plat of the town, May 21, 1738, with the Act of the House of Representatives, confirming the land to the grantees, see pages 24, 25, of the history.]

In the House of Representatives, June 28, 1738.

Ordered, that Mr. Jonathan Prescott, one of the grantees of the new township granted to Sam'l Heywood and others be and hereby is fully authorized and empowered to notify and warn the said Proprietors or Grantees to assemble and convene as soon as may be in some convenient place, to choose a Proprietors' Clerk, and pass such votes and orders for the effectual bringing forward the settlement of said township agreeable to the conditions of the grant, and also to choose such other officers as they may think proper, and agree upon a method of calling future meetings agreeable to the rules of the law.

Sent up for concurrence. J. QUINCY, *Speaker*

In Council, June 28, 1738, read and concurred.

J. WILLARD, *Secretary.*

Consented to.

J. BELCHER.

Copy examined.

July 25, 1738. Pursuant to the foregoing order I have notified the Proprietors of the aforesaid township to meet this day at the house of Mr. Luke Verdy, in Boston, for the purpose there mentioned.

JONATHAN PRESCOTT.

July 25, 1738, at a meeting of the Proprietors of the township granted to Samuel Heywood and others, by the Great and General Court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, on the 16th Jan., A.D. 1737, at the house of Mr. Luke Verdy, in Boston:

1. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., be moderator of this meeting, *nem. con.*
2. *Voted*, That Peter Prescott be clerk of the Proprietors, *nem. con.*, and he was sworn to the faithful discharge of his said office before me, Jacob Royall, Justice of the Peace.
3. *Voted*, That this meeting be adjourned to Monday next, at five of the clock, post meridian, at said Luke Verdy's.

Attest: PETER PRESCOTT, *Pro. Clerk.*

July 31, 1738, at a meeting of the Proprietors of the above township, held by adjournment at the house of Mr. Luke Verdy at five of the clock, post meridian, the following votes were passed, *viz.* :—

1. *Voted*, That there be a committee of five persons chosen to view said township, and to agree upon some suitable place for to lay out the home lots and to manage the prudentials of the said township, and the majority of the committee to govern in all affairs, *nem. con.*

2. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., Jeremiah Gridley, John Fowle, Jr., Jonathan Prescott, and Peter Prescott be the committee for the purposes above mentioned, or any three of them (they each were chosen separately), *nem. con.*

3. *Voted*, That it be left to the discretion of the committee to lay out what number of acres they shall think proper for the home or house-lots.

4. *Voted*, There be a treasurer chosen to receive and collect all taxes that shall be raised on each lot.

5. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., be treasurer and collector for the purpose.

6. *Voted*, That a tax of ten pounds on each right be raised to defray former charges, as also to enable the committee to lay out the home lots and pay other necessary charges.

7. *Voted*, That the said committee, or any three of them, be and hereby are empowered to agree with a surveyor and chainmen to lay out said lots, and that they accordingly proceed to view said township and some convenient place therein, to lay said lots out as soon as may be.

8. *Voted*, That the committee, or any three of them, be and hereby are empowered to agree with some person to build a saw-mill, either to pay cash for the same and so to be for the use of the Propriety, or to give such a quantity of land as they shall think proper for the building the same, together with the use and benefit of the stream whereon the said mill shall stand, as also to agree with any such person or persons who shall undertake said mill, for the price of sawing boards and such other lumber as may be wanted by the Propriety.

9. *Voted*, This meeting be adjourned to the house of Mr. Luke Verdy, at nine of the clock, A. M., on the 12th of August, *nem. con.*

Aug. 12, 1738, at a meeting of said Proprietors held by adjournment at said Verdy's, at nine of the clock on said day:

1. *Voted*, That the Proprietors' clerk, at the request of three, at least, of the Proprietors, be and hereby is empowered to call meetings, for the future, by posting up notifications at Concord, in the County of Middlesex, where great numbers of the Proprietors dwell, or at Mr. Luke Verdy's, at Boston, in the County of Suffolk, and some other public house in said Boston, said notification to be posted up fourteen days before the meeting begins.

And then the moderator dismissed the meeting.

Attest: PETER PRESCOTT, *Pro. Clerk.*

Nov. 29, 1738, at a meeting of the Proprietors aforesaid, duly notified to meet and convene at the house of Mr. Luke Verdy, in Boston, in the County of Suffolk, at ten of the clock before noon on said day:

1. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., be moderator of said meeting.

2. *Voted*, That the meeting be adjourned to the house of Mr. Alexander Cochran, at the Three Horse Shoes in said Boston, there to meet at three of the clock in the afternoon.

At the adjournment of said meeting, as aforesaid, the following votes were passed, *viz.* :—

1. *Voted*, That the farm marked with the letter A upon each corner be Jeremiah Gridley's and his heirs', said farm containing five hundred acres of land in the township aforesaid.

2. *Voted*, That the farm marked with the letter B upon each corner be John Hill's and his heirs', said farm containing five hundred acres of land in said township.

3. *Voted*, That the farm marked with the letter C upon each corner be Peter Prescott's and his heirs', containing five hundred acres of land in said township.

4. *Voted*, That the farm marked with the letter D upon each corner be John Fowle, Jr.'s, and his heirs', said farm containing five hundred acres of land in said township, and that he have liberty to add thereto two hundred and fifty acres of land at either end of said farm, and equal in breadth with said farm as an equivalent.

5. *Voted*, That the said John Hill should have liberty to pitch for the following lots in said township, to be his and his heirs', to wit: lots No. 6 and 69, and lots No. 36 and 98, which lots he did pitch and were accordingly confirmed to him.

6. *Voted*, That said Peter Prescott should have liberty to pitch for the following lots, to be his and his heirs', in said township, *viz.*: lots No. 7 and 70, and lots 50 and 112, which lots were pitched and accordingly confirmed to him.

7. *Voted*, That said John Fowle, Jr., should have liberty to pitch for the following lots in said township, to be his and his heirs', *viz.*: lots No. 4 and 67, and lots No. 5 and 68, which lots he pitched and accordingly they were confirmed to him.

8. *Voted*, That the said Jeremiah Gridley should have liberty to pitch for the following lots in said township, to be his and his heirs', *viz.*: lots No. 9 and 72, and lots No. 51 and 113, which lots he accordingly pitched and they were confirmed to him.

9. *Voted*, That the lot No. 71 in said township be the first settled minister's and his heirs'; "and that there be first reserved out of said lot ten acres for a meeting-house lot, burying-ground and training-field."

10. *Voted*, That the lot No. 76 be the second settled minister's and his heirs'.

11. *Voted*, That the lot No. 13 be for the use of the school forever.

12. *Voted*, That the remainder of the lots be drawn for according to the usual manner, both the first and second divisions.

John Hill, Esq., drew the following lots, as assignee to fourteen of the original grantees and their associates, to be his and his heirs', *viz.*:—

	No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.
	30	and	93
	32	"	95
	40	"	102
	42	"	104
	43	"	105
	48	"	110
Pitched Lots,	6	"	69
	36	"	98
	Sixteen Lots.		

No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.
12	and	75
17	"	80
18	"	81
19	"	82
26	"	89
27	"	90
29	"	92
Fourteen Lots.		

Mr. Jeremiah Gridley drew the following lots as assignee as aforesaid, to be his and his heirs', *viz.* : —

	No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.		No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.
Pitched Lots,	9	and	72		14	and	77
	51	"	113		22	"	85
	47	"	109		24	"	87
	53	"	115		33	"	96
	55	"	117		37	"	99
	56	"	118		39	"	101
	57	"	119		41	"	103
	Fourteen Lots.				Fourteen Lots.		

Mr. John Fowle, Jr., drew the following lots as assignee as aforesaid, to be his and his heirs' forever, *viz.* : —

	No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.		No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.
Pitched Lots,	4	and	67		34	and	97
	5	"	68		38	"	100
	11	"	74		44	"	106
	16	"	79		49	"	111
	21	"	84		54	"	116
	25	"	88		58	"	120
	28	"	91		59	"	121

Peter Prescott drew as assignee as aforesaid the following lots, to him and his heirs', *viz.* :—

	No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.		No. 1 Lots.		No. 2 Lots.
Pitched Lots,	7	and	70		1	and	64
	46	"	108		2	"	65
	50	"	112		3	"	66
	52	"	114		10	"	8
	60	"	122		15	"	73
	61	"	123		20	"	83
					31	"	94
					45	"	107

Jonathan Prescott drew the following lots, to him and his heirs, *viz.* : Number of his lot in first division was sixty-two, and the number of his second-division lot was one hundred and twenty-four.

Jonathan Hubbard drew the following lots, to him and his heirs, *viz.* : Number of his first-division lot was sixty-three, and the number of his second-division lot thirty-five.

13. *Voted*, That this meeting be adjourned to Monday next at ten of the clock before noon, to this place.

December 4. At meeting of said Proprietors held by adjournment as aforesaid:

1. *Voted*, That the general plan of said township whereon the farms and lots are delineated be fixed in the Proprietors' book, and that the plan of each particular farm and lot be recorded in said book and attested by the clerk.

2. *Voted*, That the former committee be and hereby are empowered to agree with some suitable person to cut and clear a good way or road from New Ipswich to the meeting-house lot in said township as soon as may be.

3. *Voted*, That this meeting be adjourned to Monday, the first day of January next, to this place at four of the clock, P. M.

Attest: PETER PRESCOTT, *Pro. Clerk.*

Then follows the record of the plan, dated March 26, 1739, and description of the various lots divided among the different Proprietors.

Aug. 20, 1739, at a meeting of the Proprietors aforesaid, duly notified and warned to meet at the house of Mr. Luke Verdy, in Boston, in the County of Suffolk, on the 20th of August, instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon: Voted that John Hill, Esq., be moderator of said meeting.

1. *Voted*, That the meeting be adjourned to three of the clock, P. M., at which time the meeting was adjourned from time to time, without passing any further votes till the 21st of December, 1744, and then at said meeting John Hill, Esq., was appointed Proprietors' Clerk, in the room of Peter Prescott, the then Clerk, who resigned said trust and delivered said Hill the Proprietors' book and writings to said Proprietors belonging.

At the above said meeting of said Proprietors they passed the following vote, *viz.:* that there be granted to Peter Prescott, his heirs and assigns forever, four hundred acres of land, to be laid out as the said Proprietors should hereafter agree.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

Oct. 16, 1749, at a meeting of the Proprietors aforesaid, duly notified and warned to meet at the house of Robert Stone, the Royal Exchange Tavern, in Boston, on Monday, the 16th day of October, 1749.

1. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., be moderator, and then the meeting was adjourned until Monday next, ten of the clock in the forenoon, to the same place, the 23d of October, 1749.

Met accordingly, and voted that the whole or greatest part of said township be laid out in lots not exceeding two hundred acres, and not less than one hundred acres, as the land will best allow of; and that the grant made to Peter Prescott (at their meeting A.D. 1744), of four hundred acres of land, be drawn with said Proprietors after the land is laid out as above said.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

BOSTON, Dec. 11, 1730. Know all men by these presents, that I, Peter Prescott, within named grantee, for and in consideration of the sum of thirty-five pounds lawful money to me in hand paid, before signing and delivering hereof by Benjamin Pollard, Esq., of Boston, in the Connty of Suffolk, do hereby give, grant, sell, and make over to him and his heirs forever all that tract and parcel of land within mentioned and granted to me and my heirs, to him, the said Benjamin Pollard and his heirs, with all the benefits and privileges whatsoever that would accrue to me and my heirs by virtue of said grant. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, day and year, first above written.

PETER PRESCOTT, and seal.

Signed, sealed, and delivered before us.

NATHANIEL HATCH,
EZEKIEL PIERCE.

SUFFOLK SS. BOSTON, Dec. 11, 1750.

The above said Peter Prescott acknowledged the above instrument to be his free act and deed before me.

EDWARD WINSLOW, *Jus. Peace.*

The above instrument was received and recorded the 20th of August, A. D. 1751, by me.

JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

1750. At a meeting of the Proprietors of said Peterborough, being legally warned and notified, at the house of Robert Stone, Royal Exchange Tavern, in Boston, the 14th day of December, A.D. 1750:

Voted, That Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., be moderator.

Voted, That every grantee of said Proprietors shall within three months from the date hereof pay his proportion toward the maintenance of preaching in said town, and the assessment made by the inhabitants for the roads, to such persons as shall be appointed by the inhabitants for that purpose; and upon the expiration of three months aforesaid settle his lot or lots, and continue and diligently perform his duty upon them. And in case any grantee shall not pay his proportion or settle as aforesaid, the inhabitants of said town are hereby empowered to dispose his lots to such other persons as will go and settle immediately in said town, and perform the delinquent's duty.

Voted, That the ten pounds of powder and twenty pounds of lead delivered to Mr. Scott by John Hill be for the use of the settlers, and said Hill to charge it to said Proprietors.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

1753. At a meeting of the said Proprietors of Peterborough, being legally warned and notified, at the said Robert Stone's house, the 5th day of July, 1753:

Voted, Jerry Gridley, Esq., be moderator.

Voted, That if any of the settlers neglect to pay any sum or sums of money due for public uses, which was voted by the settlers or the major part of them, until the 15th day of September next, we will then dispose of their lots to the highest bidder.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

SUFFOLK SS. DECEMBER 21, 1744.

Col. John Hill made oath that in the office of Clerk of the Proprietors of Peterborough (a new plan taken so called) he would diligently and faithfully attend and discharge the duty of that office, and duly observe the directions of the law in all things whereto said office hath relation, and thereby committed to his care and trust.

Before me: S. DANFORTH, *Jus. Peace.*

Sept. 26, 1753, at a meeting of the Proprietors of said Peterborough, being legally warned and notified, at the house of Alexander Scott in said Peterborough, Sept. 26, 1753:

Voted, That Jerry Gridley be moderator.

Voted, That there be granted to John Taget, his heirs and assigns, lot No. 39, containing one hundred acres, lying west of his settling lot, No.

48; in consideration thereof he relinquisheth his right to said Proprietors to lots Nos. 13 and 24, containing together one hundred acres; they lie on the settlers' second division; the lot No. 13 is bounded south on lot No. 12, north on lot No. 14, east on lot No. 21, and south on lot No. 5. The said lot No. 24 is bounded south on lot No. 23, west on No. 16, north on No. 27, and east on No. 26.

Voted, That there be granted to William Richey, his heirs and assigns, lot No. 32, third division, containing fifty acres: it lieth north of lots No. 46 and 49; in consideration thereof the said William Richey relinquisheth his right to said Proprietors to lot No. 8 in the second division, containing fifty acres, lying west and north of the pond.

Voted, That there be granted to William McNay, his heirs and assigns, the fifty-acre lot lying west of his settling lot, No. 110, south on the town line, and north on lot No. 39, granted to John Taget; in consideration thereof the said McNay relinquisheth to said Proprietors his right in lot No. 19, containing fifty acres, in the second division; it bounds south on No. 18, and west on No. 11, and north on No. 20, and east on No. 25; necessary roads to be allowed out of each of the foregoing lots.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At the same meeting, on said 26th day of September, 1753, voted that there be granted to Samuel Miller, his heirs and assigns, lot No. 123, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 61; in consideration thereof the said Samuel Miller relinquisheth his right to said Proprietors to his second division lot No. 8, containing fifty acres; it bounds south on No. 7, west on No. 60, north on No. 31, east on No. 16; necessary roads to be allowed out of each lot.

JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At the same meeting, on said 26th day of September, 1753, John Hill granted to Gustavus Swan lot No. 89, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 36, to his heirs and assigns; in consideration thereof the said Swan relinquisheth to said Hill his right in lot No. 20, second division, containing fifty acres; it bounds south on No. 19, west on No. 12, north on No. 21, and east on No. 25; the above granted lot, No. 98, contains fifty acres, and necessary roads to be allowed out of each lot.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

On the same 26th day of September, 1753, John Hill granted to Thomas Turner No. 92, containing fifty acres, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 29; in consideration thereof the said Turner relinquisheth his right to said Hill to No. 7, in second division, containing fifty acres; it bounds south on No. 6, west on No. 121, north on No. 8, east on No. 15; necessary roads to be allowed out of said lot.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

On the same 26th day of September, 1753, John Hill granted to Thomas Davison No. 93, containing fifty acres, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 30; in consideration thereof the said Davison relinquisheth to the said Hill his right to one hundred acres in the second division, granted to him for settlement on the same 26th day of September, 1753, *viz.:* Nos. 6 and 8.

John Hill granted to William McNay, his heirs and assigns, No. 110, containing fifty acres, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 48; in considera-

tion thereof the said William McNay relinquisheth his right to the said Hill to his second division lot No. 10, bounded south on No. 9, west on No. 2, north on No. 11, and east on No. 18; necessary roads allowed out of each lot.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

On the same 26th day of September, 1753, John Fowle granted to James Archibald his right in No. 88, adjoining to settling lot, No. 25; in consideration thereof the said Archibald relinquisheth to said Fowle fifty acres in his second division.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

Then the meeting of the said Proprietors was adjourned to the next day, being the 27th day of September, 1753, to the said house of Alexander Scott, in Peterborough, to nine of the clock in the forenoon. Then met and passed the following vote: —

Voted, That there be granted unto John Richey,* son of William Richey, lot No. 19, containing fifty acres, to him, his heirs and assigns forever; said lot bounds south on lot No. 18, north on No. 20, east on No. 25, and West on No. 11, necessary roads to be allowed out of said lot.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

1754. At a meeting of the Proprietors of Peterborough, being legally warned and notified, at the dwelling-house of Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., in Boston, on Tuesday, the 4th day of June, 1754, and passed the following vote: —

1. *Voted*, That John Hill be desired, at the charge of said Propriety, to purchase *half a barrel of gunpowder, one hundred weight of lead, and two hundred flints*, and send them by Mr. Alexander Scott to said town, there to be for a town stock for the use of the settlers in case of a war.

2. *Voted*, That the settlers of said town or their Committee chosen by them for that purpose be empowered, where any of the settlers have removed off their lots and don't return in three weeks from public notice being given by said Committee in said town and the town they shall be removed to, if it be known by said Committee, by posting up the same in some public place in each of the towns aforesaid; and also that any of the settlers that shall remove out of said town within six months from this date, the said Committee be empowered to dispose of such settlers' lots to such persons as will immediately enter into possession and improve said lots, and continue inhabitants in said town.

3. *Voted*, That John Hill, Esq., be desired, at the charge of the said Proprietors, to purchase a gun and send it to Peterborough by Alexander Scott, and the said Scott be desired to deliver said gun to the *Rev. Mr. Harvey, minister there*, for his use so long as he continues to be an inhabitant of said town.

Attest: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At a meeting of the Proprietors of Peterborough, being legally warned and notified, at the house of John Fowle, Esq., in Woburn, on the 4th day of June, A. D. 1756 — present, Jeremiah Gridley, John Hill, and John Fowle, Esqs.:

---

* First child born in Peterborough. J. S.

Voted, That Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., be moderator.

Voted, That the Proprietors proceed to draw the lots in the list presented; and John Hill, Esq., drew the lots in the list No. 1 as is here set forth, to be to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

Location.	No. of each Lot.		Number of Acres.
First Range,	1 and 2	Mason P.,	200
Second "	31 and 32	"	200
First "	7 and 8	"	200
Second "	25 and 26	"	200
First "	13 and 14	"	200
Second "	105 and 106		200
First "	19 and 20		200
Third "	111		193
" "	48		150
Third East Range,	43		150
West from Farm B and C,	94 and 95		203
Fourth Range from West Line,	84 and 85		206
Fourth " " " "	91		75
Third "	74 and 75		203
" "	80		102
Second "	71 and 72		200
First "	63 and 62		200
Second "	64		100
First "	54		100
Third East Range,	52	(sold Hammill)	193
Fourth "	41		120

The above said lots are marked with the letter H on each lot in the plan annexed to this book, on pages 6, 7.

Recorded and attested: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

And John Fowle, Esq., drew the lots set forth in the list No. 2, as is here set forth, to be to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

Location.	No. of Lots.		No. of Acres.
Second East Range,	34 and 33	Mason P.,	200
First "	5 and 6	"	200
Second "	27 and 28	"	200
First "	11 and 12	"	200
Second "	21 and 22	"	200
First "	17 and 18	"	200
Second "	101 and 102		200
Third "	110		193
" "	47		150
Near Farm B,	93 and 92		200
West from Farm C,	96		137
Fourth Range from West Line,	86 and 98		200
" "	90		75
Third "	76 and 77		204
" "	81		102
Second and Third Ranges, West Line,	73 and 83		203
First Range from West Line,	60 and 61		75
Second Range from West Line,	65		100
Third Lot from South Line,	38		100
Third East Range (sold Riddle),	49		193
On West Line of the town,	53		102

The above said lots are marked with the letter F, in each lot, in the plan annexed to this book, pages 6, 7.

Recorded and attested: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

And Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., drew the lots set forth in the list No. 3, as is here set forth, to be to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

Location.	No. of Lots.		No. of Acres.
First East Range,	3 and 4	Mason P.,	200
Second "	29 and 30	"	200
First "	9 and 10	"	200
Second "	23 and 24	"	200
First "	15 and 16	"	200
Second "	103 and 104		200
First and Second East Ranges,	99 and 100		200
Fourth East Range,	112 and 113		192
West from Farm C.,	97		100
Fourth Range from West Line,	87 and 88		200
Fourth West Line,	89		103
Third Range from West Line,	78 and 79		204
" " " " "	82		103
Second " " " "	69 and 70		200
First " " " "	58 and 59		200
Second Range from South Line,	39		106
Third Range from West Line,	50 (sold Miller)		151

The foregoing lots are marked with the letter G in each lot, in the plan annexed to this book, on pages 6, 7.

Recorded and attested: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

Location.	No. of Lots.	No. of Acres.
Fourth East Range,	114 and 115	192
Third " "	46	150
" " "	45	150

The above four lots were drawn by Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., at the same time, and with the others recorded to him, and were contained in the list No. 3, but omitted in the recording, and are now recorded to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

By JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At the same meeting the Assignees of Peter Prescott drew the following lots, *viz.:*—

Location.	No. of Lots.	No. of Acres.
Third East Range,	42	150
" " "	44	150
First West "	55	100

Conformable to a grant of said Proprietors at their meeting, the 21st day of December, 1744, as recorded in this book, page 56.

Recorded by JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At a meeting of the Proprietors of Peterborough, being first legally warned and notified, at the house of John Fowle, Esq., in Woburn, on Wednesday, the 21st day of June, 1758, they passed the following votes:

Voted, That Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., be moderator.

Voted, That whereas two hundred and fifty acres of land at either end of the farm, and of an equal breadth therewith, was granted to John Fowle, Jun., and his heirs, at a meeting of the said Proprietors held the 29th day of November, 1738, recorded on page 11 of this book, as an equivalent to either of the other farms marked with the letters A, B, and

C; and whereas James Gordon, the assignee of John Fowle, has made his election of said two hundred and fifty acres on the east side of said farm, and laid said equivalent land out there, which takes in the lots Nos. 115, 114, and part of lot No. 113, which in the last division made by said Proprietors were drawn by Jeremiah Gridley, Esq.:

Voted, Therefore, that in lieu thereof there be, and hereby is, granted to said Jeremiah Gridley, his heirs and assigns forever, two hundred and fifty acres, adjoining to said farm D on the west side thereof, as an equivalent for the said lots, Nos. 115, 114, and part of No. 113, taken by said Gordon as aforesaid.

Voted, That whereas there was granted unto John Taget lot No. 39, containing one hundred acres lying on the west side of his settling lot, No. 48, at their meeting of said Proprietors, Sept. 26, 1753, recorded page 58 of this book, in lieu of said lot No. 39, he, the said John Taget, relinquished his right to said Proprietors in lots Nos. 13 and 24, in second division, laid out for said settlers; and whereas Jeremiah Gridley, at the last division made by said Proprietors, drew the said lot No. 39, therefore, in lieu thereof, the said lots, Nos. 13 and 24, are granted to the said Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., and his heirs.

Voted, That the clerk be desired to make the following memorandum in the Proprietors' book, *viz.:*—

"That the heirs of John Vanall, etc., have not, by themselves nor any other person, appeared in any of the Proprietors' meetings, nor contributed anything towards the settlement of said town of Peterborough, and their guardian, the Hon. Spencer Phips, Esq., refused to pay anything towards the expenses the Proprietors were at in bringing forward said settlement, although application was often made to said guardian by John Fowle and John Hill, Esqs., as they have declared in this meeting of said Proprietors."

Voted, That there be and hereby is granted unto Richard Gridley, Esq., and to his heirs and assigns forever, for his good services to said Proprietors, a fifty-acre lot in said township of Peterborough, bearing No. 8; it bounds south on lot No. 70, north on lot No. 71; it buts east on lot No. 31 or the highway, west on the Mill farm. It is more particularly planned, described, butted, and bounded on page 15 of this book, and recorded by Peter Prescott, the then Proprietor's Clerk, Dec. 18, 1738.

Recorded and attested by JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

On pages 59, 60, of this book there is recorded as follows, *viz:* Sept. 26, 1753, John Hill granted to Thomas Davison No. 93, containing fifty acres, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 30; in consideration thereof the said Davison relinquisheth to said Hill his right to one hundred acres of land in the second division, granted to him for settlement on the same 26th day of September, 1753, and the said Hill has drawn for his the said second division, *viz.*, No. 6, containing fifty acres, bounding west on No. 61, east on No. 14, south on No. 5, north on Nos. 7 and 8; and the lot No. 8, containing fifty acres, is bounded south on lot No. 7, north on lot 31, east on No. 16, west on Nos. 60 and 122.

Recorded by JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

On pages 61, 62, there is recorded to John Hill, Esq., his draft of lots, and the following lots that are marked Mason P. are set off to the Pro-

prietors of Mason's claim, as their reservation in their grant to the Proprietors of Peterborough, for said Hill's part of said reservation.

In First East Range as on Plan in this Book.				In Second East Range, &c.			
No. 1,	containing	100	acres.	No. 25,	containing	100	acres.
" 2,	"	100	"	" 26,	"	100	"
" 7,	"	100	"	" 31,	"	100	"
" 8,	"	100	"	" 32,	"	100	"
" 13,	"	100	"				
" 14,	"	100	"				
" 19,	"	100	"				
" 20,	"	100	"				

On page 62 there is recorded to John Fowle his draft of lots, and the following lots that are marked Mason P. are set off to the Proprietors of Mason's claim, as their reservation in their grant to the Proprietors of Peterborough, for said Fowle's part of said reservation.

In First East Range.				In Second East Range, &c.			
No. 5,	containing	100	acres.	No. 21,	containing	100	acres.
" 6,	"	100	"	" 22,	"	100	"
" 11,	"	100	"	" 27,	"	100	"
" 12,	"	100	"	" 28,	"	100	"
" 17,	"	100	"	" 33,	"	100	"
" 18,	"	100	"	" 34,	"	100	"

On page 63 there is recorded to Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., his draft of lots, and the following lots that are marked P. Mason are set off to the Proprietors of Mason's claim, as their reservation in their grant to the Proprietors of Peterborough, for said Gridley's part of said reservation.

In the First East Range.				In Second East Range, &c.			
No. 3,	containing	100	acres.	No. 23,	containing	100	acres.
" 4,	"	100	"	" 24,	"	100	"
" 9,	"	100	"	" 29,	"	100	"
" 10,	"	100	"	" 30,	"	100	"
" 15,	"	100	"				
" 16,	"	100	"				

Nota bene, said Gridley has one hundred and thirty-three and one-third less taken out of his part or share of the lands to satisfy Mason's grant than Hill and Fowle have, so that Hill and Fowle must have each of them sixty-six and two-thirds acres allowed them, to make up so much for their part taken out and recorded to said Mason Proprietors.

On page 60 in this book is recorded, Sept. 26, 1753: John Fowle granted to James Archibald his high No. 88, adjoining to his settling lot, No. 25; in consideration thereof the said Archibald relinquisheth to said Fowle fifty acres in his second division, and the said Fowle has drawn lot No. 24, for his second division; it buts south on lot No. 23, north on lot No. 27, east on lot No. 26, west on lot No. 16.

Recorded: JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

At a meeting of the Proprietors of Peterborough, duly notified and warned, at the chamber of Jeremiah Gridley, Esq., in Mr. Bagnall's dwelling-house, in Boston, on the 25th day of March, in the year 1767:

Voted, That there be and hereby is granted (at the request of the

inhabitants of said Peterborough) unto the Rev. Mr. John Morrison, he being the first settled minister, the lots. Nos. 15 and 78, in the first division of lots as they are now laid out (they contain together one hundred acres), to him, the said Morrison, his heirs and assigns forever, on the following condition, *viz.:* lot No. 78, that he continue minister in said town of Peterborough for the space of seven years from his ordination, or to his death, if that should first happen; and in case the said Morrison should not remain minister of said Peterborough for the space of seven years, and so long live, then the said lot No. 78 is hereby granted unto the said town of Peterborough for their next settled minister.

Recorded by JOHN HILL, *Pro. Clerk.*

[*The end of page* 67 *of the Proprietors' Record.*]

Pages 68 and 69 of the Proprietors' book contain an exact copy of the grant of the Masonian Proprietors to the Proprietors of Peterborough, etc., which is recorded on pages 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this book.

Transcribed Oct. 21, 1787. Finis.

For an attested copy, by Jeremiah Smith, of the above quitclaim of the Masonian Proprietors to the Proprietors of Peterborough, see pages 47, 48, and 49 of this History.

A COPY OF THE ACT ANNEXING A CERTAIN PART OF PETERBOROUGH TO TEMPLE.

State of New Hampshire.

In the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine.

[L. S.]

An act for annexing a certain part of the town of Peterborough in the County of Hillsborough to the town of Temple in said county:

WHEREAS, The following lots of land, lying in the south-east corner of said Peterborough, to wit, lots numbered one, two, three, four, five, and six in the first East Range, and the lots numbered thirty-three and thirty-four in the second East Range, are separated by a very high mountain from the other parts of said Peterborough, and are commodiously situated for said town at Temple, and the said towns of Peterborough and Temple have agreed that the said lots of land be disjoined from said town of Peterborough and be annexed to said town of Temple, therefore:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, that the said lots be and they hereby are disjoined from said town of Peterborough and annexed to said town of Temple; and the said lots of land with the inhabitants thereon shall forever hereafter be considered as a part, and belonging to, said town of Temple, as though the same had been originally incorporated therewith; and the person or persons who, on the 1st day of September last, or at any time since, lived, or are now living, on said lots of land, and who by living thereon may have gained a residence in said town of Peterborough, shall, in case they shall ever stand in need of relief, be considered as the proper charge of the said town of Temple, in the same manner as though the same lots at the time of such person or persons coming to reside thereon, and ever since, had been a part of said Temple, any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding:

Provided, nevertheless, that nothing in this act shall be considered to affect the right of said Town of Peterborough to assess levy and collect

any taxes now due from said lots, but the same shall be assessed, levied, and collected in the same manner as though this act had not been made, anything therein to the contrary notwithstanding.

In the House of Representatives, Jan. 28, 1789. The foregoing bill having been read a third time, Voted, That it pass to be enacted. Sent up for concurrence.

THOMAS BARTLETT, *Speaker.*

In Senate, Jan. 29, 1789. This bill having been read a third time, Voted, That the same be enacted.

JOHN PICKERING, *President.*

True copy examined by Joseph Pearson, Secretary.
True copy examined by Jeremiah Smith.

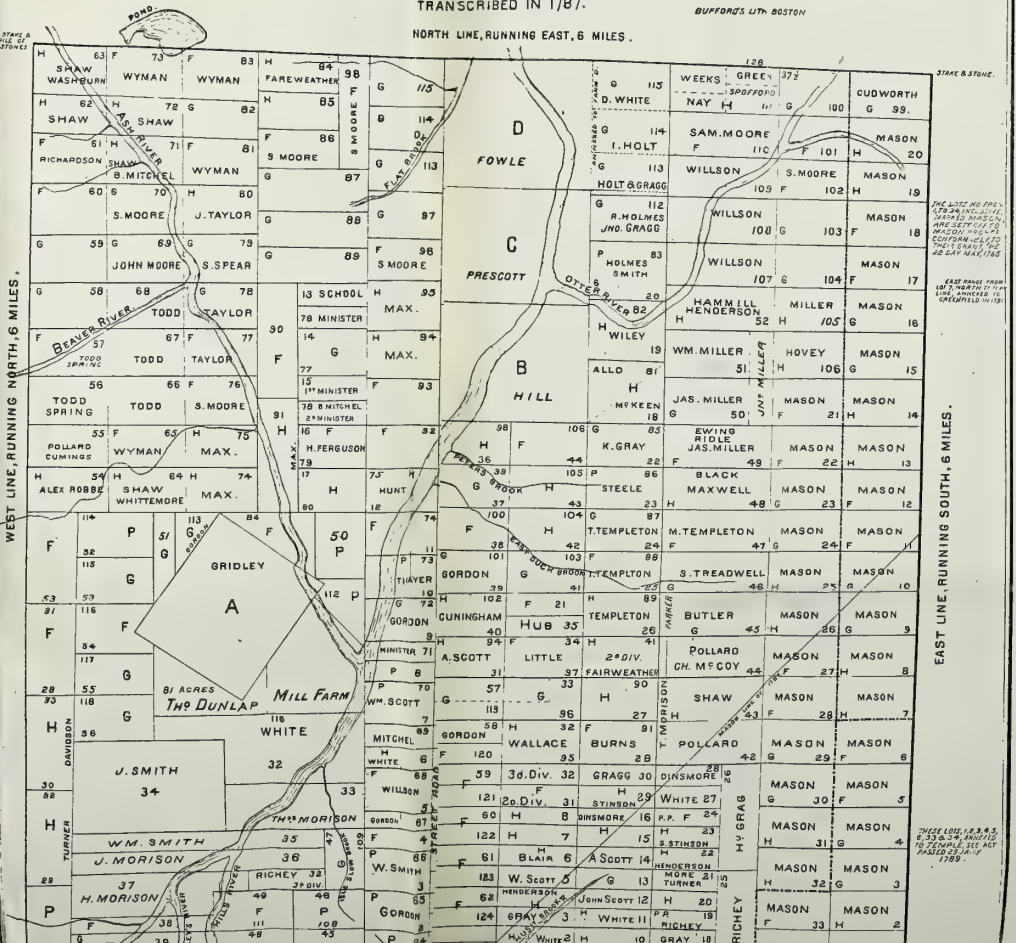
LAND MAP OF PETERBOROUGH

REPRODUCED BY G. S. MORISON FROM MAP IN THE HANDWRITING OF

HON. JEREMIAH SMITH L.L.D.

TRANSCRIBED IN 1787.

BUFFORD'S LITH. BOSTON



EXPLANATION,

By N. H. MORISON,

OF LAND-MAP TRANSCRIBED BY JUDGE SMITH IN 1787, FROM THE PROPRIETORS' RECORDS.

In laying out a town six miles square, there can be little doubt that the surveyor *intended* to make the junction of the Contoocook and Nubanusit Rivers its centre, and to run its boundaries due east, west, north, and south.

FIRST SURVEY.

The first survey of lots was made by Joseph Wilder in the spring of 1738. The four great farms of 500 acres each (320 by 250 rods) for the proprietors were first laid off, farm A (Gridley's) being thrown perpendicularly across the Nubanusit River. To farm D (Fowle's), on account of the swamps in which much of it lay, was granted an addition of 250 acres, which, in 1758, were selected by James Gordon, the assignee of Fowle, on the east side of the farm, including lots 115, 114, and part of 113 of the second survey, these numbers being transferred to other lots west of the farm.

Beside the great farms the survey laid off the 63 lots required by the grant, 60 for the settlers, 1 for the first minister, 1 for the second minister, and 1 for the school. The settlers' lots were scattered over the various parts of the town and around the large farms in such a way as to give the greatest value to the lands retained by the proprietors. Each "home" or "settler's" lot contained 50 acres; but, at a later period (1753), the settler who had complied with the conditions of the settlement received another 50 acre lot. To each settler's lot of 50 acres was joined a proprietor's lot of the same size and dimensions, making each full lot contain 100 acres (160 by 100 rods) divided equally between settler and proprietor. Each lot of this first survey, therefore, contains two numbers, those from 1 to 63 designating the settlers' halves of the full lots, and the numbers from 64 to 125 marking the parts belonging to the proprietors. These double numbers are the characteristic feature of the first survey, and render it easy to trace the lots then laid out, over the different parts of the town. This first survey ran thus: —

1. South line, 1st range west of Street Road, running north 12 lots, 1, 64—12, 75.

2. 2nd range west of farm B, running south 5 lots, 13, 76—17, 80.
3. 1st range east of farm B, running north 3 lots, 18, 81—20, 83.
4. Two ranges (14 lots) were then surveyed outside the present limits of the town, beginning west of 54, second survey (Alexander Robbe's).

West line, 1st range, running south 6 lots and 2 half-lots, 22; 21, 85; 23, 86; 24, 87; 25, 88; 26, 89; 27, 90; 28; 2d range, running north 6 lots and 2 half-lots, 91; 29, 92; 30, 93; 31, 94; 32, 95; 33, 96; 34, 97; 35.

These numbers were all transferred to other parts of the town after the western boundary was altered by Blanchard. Lot 21 is the companion lot of 84. Lot 35, granted to J. Hubbard, an early small proprietor, had no settler's lot attached, so that up to 34, 97 the difference between the two numbers in the lots is always 63, but after 35 this difference is 62.

5. South of farm B, 1st range east of Street Road, running south 5 lots, 36, 98—40, 102.
6. South of farm B, 2d range east of Street Road, running north 4 lots, 41, 103—44, 106.
7. South line, 2d range west of Street Road, running north 3 lots, 45, 107—47, 109.
8. South line, 3d range west of Street Road, running north 2 lots, 48, 110—49, 111.
9. East, north, and west of farm A, 7 lots, 50, 112—56, 118.
10. 1st range, east of Street Road, running south, 7 lots, 57, 119—63, 125, ending on the town line near the place of beginning, and completing the survey.

Three numbers of the Jaffrey lots (28, 91—30, 93) were retained in the half range left by Blanchard on the west side of the town. The other numbers were transferred to the 2nd and 3d ranges east of the Street Road, 28, 91 being found in both places.

SECOND SURVEY.

The second survey was made some time, but not long, after Oct. 16, 1749, when it was ordered. The name of the surveyor is not known. In the south-east part of the town, beginning on south line, 2nd range east of Street Road, 31 lots of 50 acres each were laid off. In 1753, these lands were divided by lot among such settlers as had complied with the conditions of settlement, and were styled 2nd division lots, the original settler's lot being his 1st division lot. Lots numbered 32, 3d division, south of 31, 2d division, and 32, 3d division, in the south-west part of the town, marked Richey, were also 50 acre lots, probably given to later settlers, and so called 3d division lots.

Lots 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, in the south-west part of the town, were settled before the second survey was begun, and the bounds of these lots were probably arranged to suit the settlers actually in possession of them. This only will account for the great size and irregularity of these farms, for the fact that they were never divided among the proprietors, and that no mention of them whatever appears in their records. The survey proceeded as follows:—

1. N. E. part of town, 31 lots, 1–31, called 2d division lots.
2. S. W. " " 6 " 32–37, settled before they were surveyed.
3. S. W. " " 3 " 38–40.
4. East line, 4th range, 1 lot, 41.
5. " " 3d " 11 " 42–52.

fourth miles east of the south-west corner of Rindge to a point on the east line of Eaton, both of which points they fixed by their survey. This line passed through Peterborough as above described, and fixed, by an authority from which there was no appeal, exact limits to the Mason Grant. A dispute was thus settled which had raged, at times with great violence, for more than one hundred and fifty years.

All the streams on this map are more or less out of their true positions, and the bounds of many lots are very inaccurately drawn, rendering it of little use to the surveyor; and yet the map is of great historic value as showing the relative position of the farms, and the exact location of all the earliest, and many of the subsequent, settlers of the town.